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THE
Art of Midwifry:
OR, THE
MIDWIFE's
SURE GUIDE:

Wherein the most Successful
METHODS of PRACTICE
Are laid down,
IN THE
Plaineft, Cleareft, and Shorteft Manner.

By GEORGE COUNSELL, Surgeon,
and Practitioner in Midwifry.

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M.DCC.LII.



TO
E D W A R D
H O D Y, *M.D.*

Member *of the* R O Y A L *and*
A N T I Q U A R I A N S O C I E T I E S ;

And of the
R O Y A L C O L L E G E *of* P H Y S I C I A N S ,
L O N D O N .

S I R,

I Make bold to offer you
the following little Per-
formance: It is with the
greatest Respect I submit

A 2 it

it to your Judgment; and
hope for your Protection.

If there is any thing herein contained that may be serviceable to the present or future Generations, for whose Benefit it is intended, I am sure of your kind Acceptance, and impartial Approbation: And this I may justly infer from your well-known Benevolence, and that publick Spirit, with which you have always acted in promoting the general Good of Mankind.

It

Dedication.

v

It will readily be allowed by all judicious Practitioners, that it is no easy, but a very difficult Undertaking, to describe rightly and intelligibly the various Methods necessary, upon all Emergences, to the due Discharge of our Office in this most useful and laborious Art; especially to Female Practitioners, unacquainted with Anatomy, for whose Use this Book was chiefly designed: And I therefore humbly hope, that no one will condemn me for venturing to add

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my Mite to the more elaborate Performances of others already publish'd. And if you, SIR, who have so long and worthily supported the Dignity of your Office in this particular Branch of Practice, as well as in your Physical Province, shall approve of my Method of Practice, and the Instructions herein given, I shall rest fully satisfied: Nor can I wish for a better Advocate, than one who has ever delighted in doing Acts of Justice and Friendship, particularly to
those

those of the Faculty, whose Characters have at any time been clandestinely and unjustly attack'd. And here I beg Leave to declare, that it is, and ever will be, the utmost of my Ambition to obtain the Favour and Esteem of all such, who from their Candour and Learning are an Ornament to their Profession : and should I prove so happy, I shall totally disregard the idle malevolent Censures of those narrow Souls, whose Meat and Drink it is to pick up and publish the Er-

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rors

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Dedication.

rors and Imperfections of
their Fellow-Creatures. I
am,

S I R,

Your most obedient

Devoted humble Servant,

London, June

24. 1752.

GEORGE COUNSELL.

T H E
P R E F A C E.

*A*S this following Treatise was chiefly designed for the Use of Midwives, and such Practitioners in England, as are unacquainted with any other Language than their own; I have taken care to write in a plain, easy Stile, such as I apprehend will render it of more Use and Benefit to them than most Books I have met with upon the same Subject: But my chief Care and Concern has been, throughout the Whole,
to

to lay down in the plainest, and at the same time the most concise Terms, a Method of Practice, which, for many Years past, I can safely aver, upon my Conscience, has proved successful, and in many Cases far beyond my own Expectation: And should I meet with the Approbation of the Candid and Learned in the Faculty of Physic, and of other Gentlemen of Experience in this Profession, I shall think myself happy; but much more so, should I ever hear, that I have saved the Life of one single Woman, or Infant, by the Doctrine herein laid down, or the cautious Admonitions I have given to young Practitioners. And, certainly, such Cautions and Admonitions were never more wanted than at this present Juncture: For it is a
Truth

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Truth too well known, that Mothers and their Children are daily, if not hourly, destroyed [such is the Practice of Midwifry in our Days] by ignorant Wretches, in almost every State of Life, a Pack of young Boys, and old superannuated Washer-women, who are so impudent and so inhuman as to take upon them to practise, even in the most difficult Cases, which can possibly occur.

How much, then, is it to be lamented, that no Care has yet been taken by any Law, to prevent these cruel and most fatal Proceedings! Laws have been enacted for the Preservation of the Brute Species; and shall the Human Species be neglected? Surely an Affair of such vast Weight and Importance, that is now even a national

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tional Grievance, in which the Safety of Millions yet unborn will be concerned, must, one Day or other, become the Subject of a Parliamentary Inquiry: It may likewise happen, that the Wives and Children of the first Peers of the Realm, by chance, may fall, as well as others, into the Hands of the Unskilful.

And here I beg leave to observe, that in the three Professions of Physic, Surgery, and Pharmacy, a Power of the same nature is already granted to proper Persons by the Legislature, to examine all such as are to be admitted to practise, and take care of the Lives of his Majesty's Subjects: And from the great Care which has been taken in these Examinations, Numbers of Lives have undoubtedly

The PREFACE. xiii

*edly been saved: And the Lives of
Thousands of Women and Children
will as undoubtedly be preserved, if
a Power was granted by Law to the
Royal College of Physicians, to ap-
point annually one or more of their
Members, eminent in the Profession of
Midwifry, to examine and license all
Persons, Men as well as Women,
who for the future shall practise with-
in the present Jurisdiction of the
College, which extends over all Prac-
titioners in, and within seven Miles
of, London. And although it is well
known, that the President and Cen-
sors of the College of Physicians have,
in many Instances, given Proof of
their Integrity and Disinterestedness,
by rejecting and denying such the
Liberty of Practice, whom they have
found*

xiv *The* PREFACE.

found ignorant and unqualified; notwithstanding a large Sum would have been added to their public Fund, had they granted their Permission; yet I humbly conceive (as no Harm can accrue from it) it would be right, that every Examiner, thus appointed, should take the Sacrament at his first Entrance on his Office, and be sworn to grant no Licence out of Favour or Affection, but to such only as He shall find duly qualified.

It is indeed almost impossible to provide in this salutary manner for all Parts of the Kingdom; but it may easily be done throughout a very great Part of it, by granting the same Power to the College of appointing Examiners in every City, and every populous Town, including always twenty
Miles

Miles, or more, around it : And this, as I have said, may easily be done ; there being scarce any City, or very large Town, in which a Practitioner in Midwifry of some Eminence does not now reside.

By this Method, and by obliging all those who shall begin to practise Midwifry (after a certain Number of Years, prescribed by Parliament) to serve an Apprenticeship, I am fully satisfied, that not only innumerable Lives, in Process of Time, will be saved ; but many of the most aimiable Part of the Creation will be relieved from suffering most grievous Pains, and life-lasting Infirmities, which are worse to be borne by some, than the Pangs of Death itself.

And

And now I shall detain my Reader no longer, than to give this short Caution to Midwives in general, that they never presume to make use of Instruments: It is sufficient for them to know when they become necessary; and by observing this Rule, they will keep their Consciences void of Offence, and at the same time preserve their Reputation.

And it is much to be wished, that Gentlemen who practise in this way, would be less frequent in the Use of them: For, Thanks be to Providence! no Instruments are wanted, except on some few extraordinary Occasions; nor should they be ever so much as thought of, but in Cases of the utmost Extremity.

LONDON, May 20. 1752.

AN
EXPLANATION
OF
THE FIGURES
IN THE
TWO PLATES.

EXPLANATION

OF

THE FIRST

IN THE

TWO VOLUMES

A.N

EXPLANATION, &c.

THE First of these Two preceding Figures should be carefully examined, and its whole Frame or Structure well consider'd, by all Learners and young Beginners in Practice; as it will make them acquainted with the common Dimensions of the Female Bason, and the Proportion its different Parts bear to each other; which must be of

great Service to them in their future Practice.

The Second exhibits a preternatural Bason, of a very undue Proportion, well deserving the Observation of the Curious.

Through the former a *Fœtus* of any common Magnitude will readily pass: But whenever this Case of a preternatural Bason occurs, we can never expect a live Child, even under the Hands of the most skilful Operator; and it will be happy for the poor Woman, if it can be extracted by the Help of Instruments, without being obliged to proceed to the *Cæsarean* Operation.

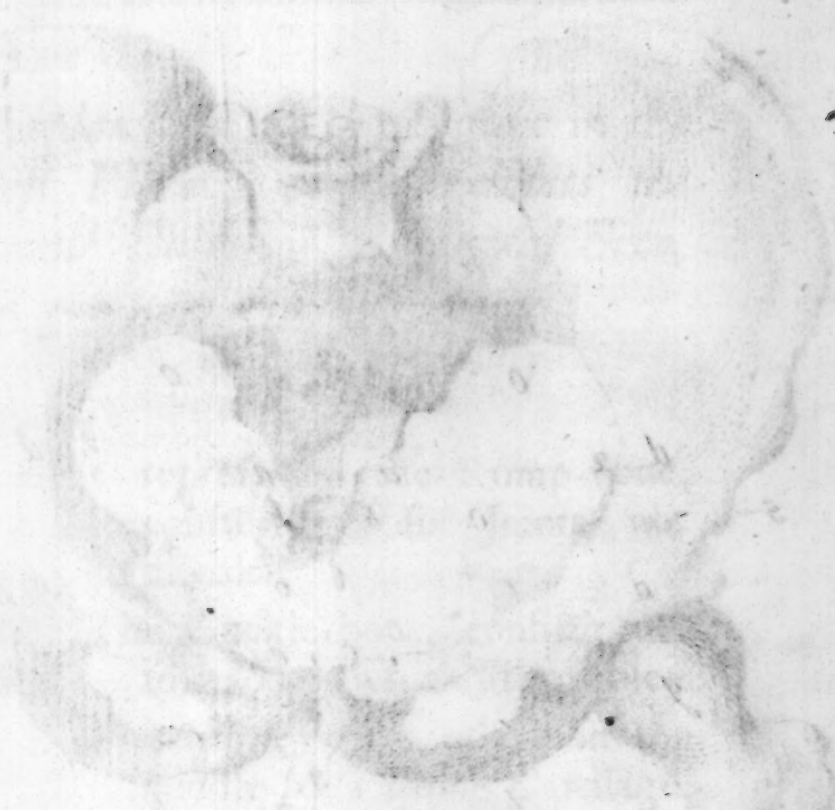
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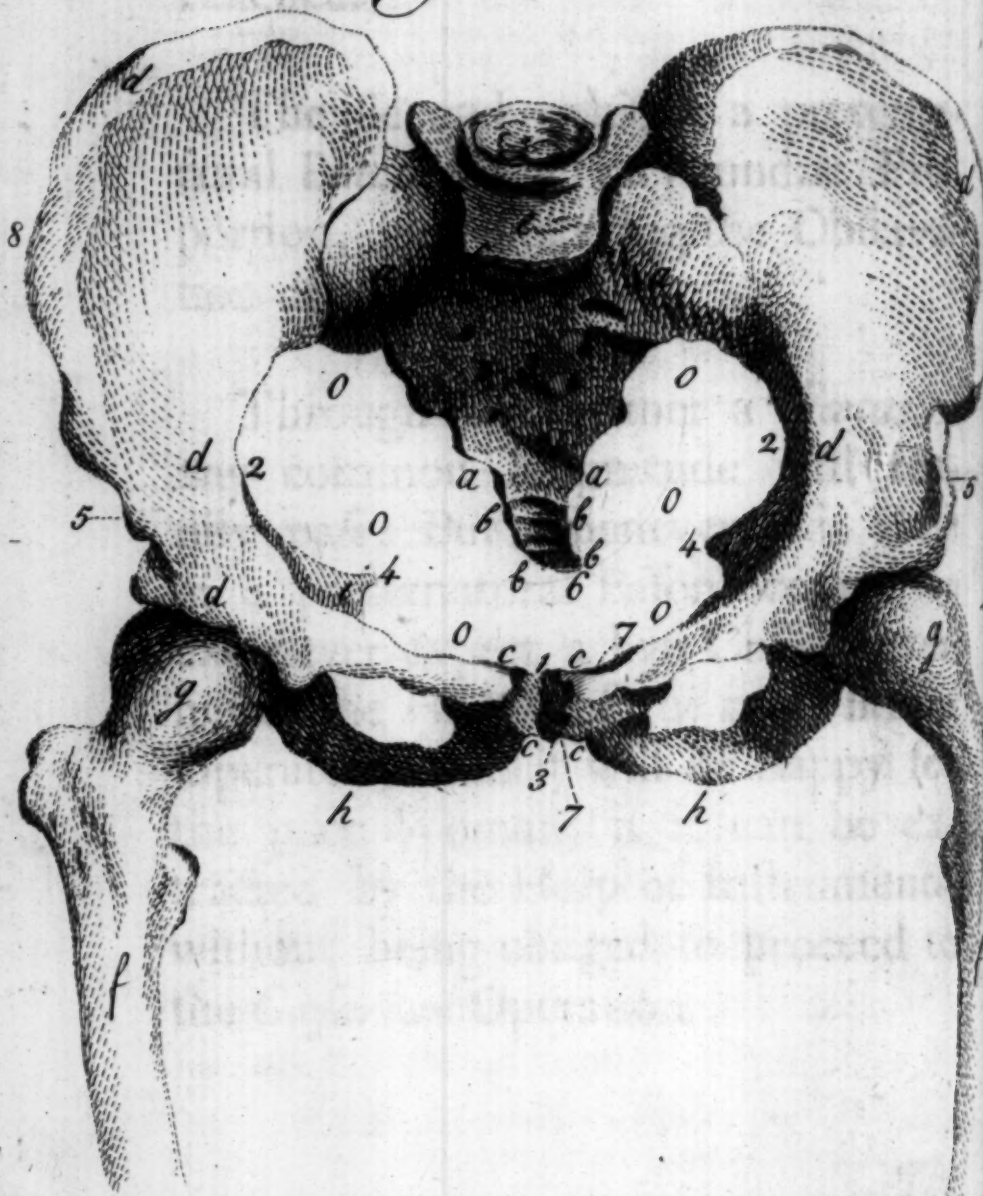
THE HISTORY OF THE
NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS



By JAMES OGLETHORPE
Author of the History of the
Georgia Colony

Fig. I.
A natural female Bason.

Plate



Brooke sc^t. Flects.^t

The Explanation of the Figure in the First Plate ; which exhibits the Female Bason of a natural Size, and good Proportion.

At the Letters

a. a. a. a. Is represented the Rump-bone, consisting of six Joints, not pliable.

b. b. b. b. The Huckle-bone, consisting of four Joints, which are pliable.

c. c. c. c. The Share-bone, joined in the middle by a strong Cartilage. This never opens, but by extreme Violence.

d. d. d. d. d. d. The Flank-bones.

e. — The lowest Vertebra, or Joint of the Loins ; which is joined by a Cartilage to the upper End of the Rump-bone.

f. f. — The Thigh-bones.

Note,

Note, A little above the Situation of these Letters, the two round Ligaments of the Womb are fasten'd to the Thigh-bones; and it is the stretching of these Ligaments, by the Weight and various Motions of the *Fœtus*, Waters, &c. that occasions the Pains in the Groins, and upper Parts of the Thighs, so often complain'd of by breeding Women, during the Time of their Pregnancy, or Child-bearing.

g. g. . . The Heads of the Thigh-bones.

b. b. . . The Resting-bones. On these we rest when we sit down.

i. i. . . . The Processes of the Flank-bones.

Note, The Space or Hollow between these Processes is considerably less than that which makes the hinder Part of the Basin, next the Rump, and Huckle-bones. On this account it is serviceable, and sometimes very
neces-

of the First Figure. xxiii

necessary (especially in the Delivery of large Children) to press the Child's Body downwards towards the Rump and Huckle-bones ; as is directed in the 20th Page of this Book, Sect. I. Chap. I.

The Figures

1. 1. . . Describe the Space between the upper and fore Part of the Rump-bone, and the upper and fore Edge of the Share-bone ; which, in the Skeleton this Print was taken from, measures four Inches, full Measure.
2. 2. . . The Space between the upper or fore Edges of the Flank-bones ; which measures five Inches and a Quarter.
3. 3. . . The Space between the second Joint of the Rump-bone, and the lower and hinder Edge of the Share-bone ; which measures five Inches and a Quarter.

The

4. 4. . . The Space between the two Processes of the Flank-bones; which measures four Inches and a Quarter.
5. 5. . . The Space between the lower or hinder Edges of the Flank-bones; which measures five Inches and half.
6. 6. . . The Depth of the Bason, behind, from the upper End of the Rump-bone, to the lower End of the Huckle-bone, measures, in this Skeleton, five Inches and half; of which the Huckle-bone is about one Inch and a Quarter.
7. 7. . . The Depth of the Bason, before, from the upper and fore Edge of the Share-bone, to the lower and hinder Edge of the same, measures two Inches.
8. 8. . . The Wings or Blades of the Flank-bones; which measure, from Outside to Outside, at the widest Points, nine Inches and a Quarter.
- ooooo. The whole Cavity, or hollow Space of the Bason.

The

of the First Figure.

xxv

The Skeleton from which this Basion was drawn, is of a midling Size; and the Rump - bone is somewhat smaller and shorter in it, than the usual Proportion.

Note, In the Time of Birth, a Child enters at the fore and upper Edge of the Basion, and passes forth from the lower and hinder Edge of the same.

The Consideration of this, with the Form and Dimensions of the said Basion, will afford you some Hints, that may be very useful to you in the Manner of discharging your Office upon all Occasions, as well in common easy Births, as in those that are difficult; as I just now mentioned.

The Explanation of the Figure in the Second Plate; which exhibits the Female Bason of a preternatural Dimension, and of a very undue Proportion.

The Figures

1. 1. . . . Describe the Space between the Projection of the lower Joint of the Loins, and the upper and fore Edge of the Share-bone; which in this Bason measures but barely two Inches and one Eighth; being but half the usual Measure of a well-proportion'd Bason.

2. 2. . . . The Space between the Edges of the Flank-bones, which in this Bason measures four Inches and five Eighths.

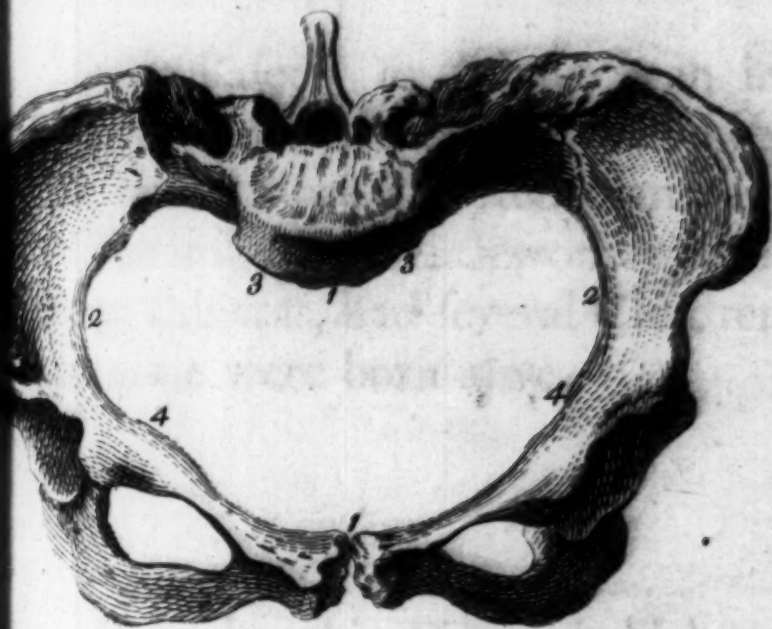
From 3. } On either Side measures one Inch
to 4. } and three Quarters.

From

Fig. 2

Plate. 2.

A preternatural female Basin

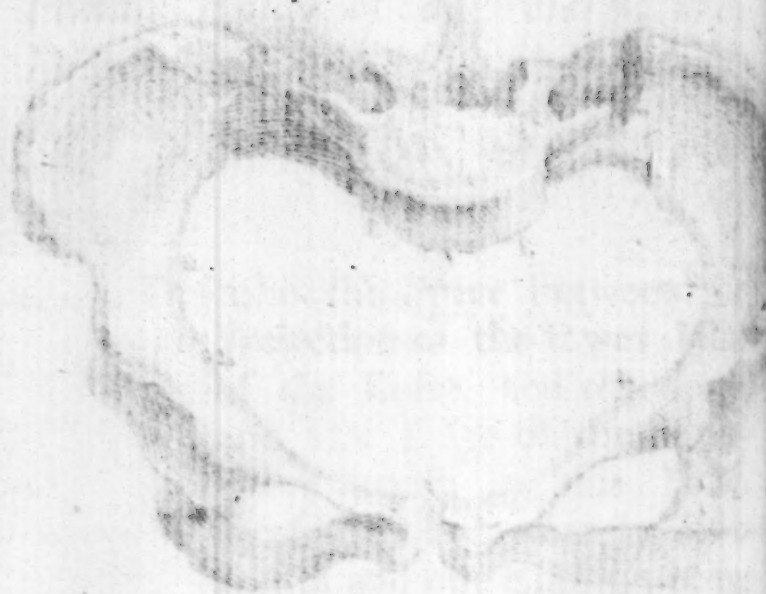


I. Brooks, sculp. F. Lucas?

Plate 2

Fig. 2

1) Anatomical Figure of a



of the Second Figure. xxvii

From 4. } Measures three Inches and five
to 4. } Eighths.

2. to 3. On either Side measures one Inch
and seven Eighths; but a little
more on the left Side, owing
to a Distortion in that
Place.

Some Basons, as I have been informed, have been even narrower, and much more distorted than this.

The unhappy Gentlewoman whose Bason this was, had several Children; but none were born alive.

Note, In this Figure (which was engraved from one I accidentally came by) that the lower Vertebra, or Joint of the Loins, projects, over the fore Part of the Rump-bone, deeply into the Hollow of the Bason, towards the Share bone; which is
the

the Occasion of the Deformity and Disproportion.

By comparing this with the former Figure, and considering the general Magnitude of *Fætuses* ripe for Birth, you will readily perceive the Necessity of using Instruments upon these very extraordinary Occasions; tho' in almost all other Cases they should be totally discarded; as I have said,

INTRODUCTION.

WHEN a Midwife is required to assist a Woman supposed to be in Labour ; in order to distinguish whether the Pains be true, or false, she must touch the Woman ; which is to be done by introducing one of her Fingers through the outer Orifice, and the Sheath or Passage to the inner Orifice, or Mouth of the Womb : And if she finds the inner Orifice closely shut up, she may properly report the Woman to be not, as yet, actually in Labour.

Although, if the Woman be at or near the full Time of her Reckoning,

ing, and her Pains should be regular, and attended with a strong Irritation and Bearing-down about the Neck of the Womb, the Midwife may rightly judge, and safely report, that the Woman's true Labour is near at hand.

If upon the Continuance and Increase of the Woman's Pains the inner Orifice opens, insomuch that the Midwife can pass the Tip of her Finger through it, and feel a small Part of the Bag or Membranes containing the Waters, and the Child pointing and pushing down into the Passage more and more with every Pain; which is called *The Gathering of the Waters*; and if she can perceive a Discharge of a glairy and redish Matter (commonly called the *Shews*); she may then properly and truly pronounce the Woman to be actually in Labour.

INTRODUCTION. 3

Or even if the Woman should not be near her full Time, but yet these foregoing Tokens and Symptoms should be evidently upon her, the Midwife may venture to declare, that it will probably end in a Miscarriage. And if a Flooding should also happen to come on to any considerable Degree, the Woman must inevitably miscarry: And if the Flooding be violent, she must immediately be assisted by the Hand of the Midwife, or Man Midwife, or with proper Instruments; for without a speedy and complete Delivery of all that is contained in her Womb (be it a Child, Mole, true or false Conception, or whatsoever else), she must, in this Case, certainly and very quickly lose her Life.

But, on the other hand, if the Woman's Pains should advance irregularly, with Gripings in her Sto-

mach and Intestines, and the Irritation and Bearing-down should be rather in the *Rectum*, or strait Gut, towards the Fundament, than about the Neck of the Womb; and more especially if the inner Orifice, instead of yielding to the Pains, and being stretched by them gradually wider, should be the more closely contracted by the Force of the said Pains; in this Case the Midwife may justly declare them False Pains, and that the Woman is not properly in Labour, but that she must be assisted by proper Methods and Medicines, to be directed or put in Practice by a Physician, or Man Midwife.

In making the Touch you must be careful not to press against the urinary Passage, or Neck of the Bladder, lest you should bruise them; therefore to avoid this Accident, incline your Fingers to the Back-part

INTRODUCTION. 5

of the Passage, towards the Huckle-
bone.

In order to judge whether the tra-
vailing Woman will be likely to have
a slow, or a quick Labour, you must,
in the first place, observe the Nature
of her Pains, and the Degree of
Strength she has to bear them.

If the Woman be very weak, and
her Pains dull, lingering, and irre-
gular, you may reasonably expect,
that her Labour will be slow.

This you may report, if desired,
to the Woman's Friends, in private,
but never in the Hearing of the
Woman herself, lest it should dis-
courage her, sink her Spirits, and
have an ill Effect upon her Mind;
and by so doing you would make a
bad Matter worse, which should al-
ways carefully be avoided: There-
fore it is proper, that you should al-
ways support and chear up the Wo-

6 INTRODUCTION.

man's Spirits, by giving her soothing Words, and comfortable Hopes of a happy Delivery ; except it be in the most desperate Cases, wherein you perceive, that her Death is unavoidable : And in such Cases, I think, you should always give her, as well as her Friends, early Notice ; at least not flatter them with vain Hopes, but directly require the Assistance of a Man Midwife, and a Physician.

On the other hand, if the Woman be strong, and her Pains regular and sharp, with the Bag of Water gathering, and projecting largely into the Passage, you need not doubt but her Labour will be quick ; except there be an ill Formation of some Part of the Woman, or Child, or some Disproportion between the Child and the Hollow of the Basin through which it must pass before it can be born.

In

INTRODUCTION. 7

In this Case you may be very chearful, and safely give your Woman a lively Expectation of a good Labour, that will be soon accomplish'd.

In the next Place, in order to judge of a slow, or quick Labour, you must, in making your Touch or Search, take good notice of the Condition in which you find the Circle or Ring that is formed by the Opening of the inner Orifice of the Womb, whether it be hard and thick, or thin and soft.

If you find this Ring very thick and hard, and unyielding to the Pains, and not relaxing and growing soft, nor dilating or opening itself gradually, in proportion as the Pains advance:—In this Case you may expect a slow Labour.

But if you find this Ring or Circle of the Womb's Mouth thin and soft,

8 INTRODUCTION.

easily yielding to the Woman's Pains, or freely giving way to the Touch of your Fingers (the Water-bag at the same time projecting largely through it), and regularly expanding or widening itself more and more by the Influence of every Pain, till there is sufficient Room thereby obtain'd for the Expulsion of the Child, insomuch that it may be able to pass forth, and come into the World along with the flowing Waters (as soon as the Pains shall have broke open the Bag in which they are contained), or directly after them; under these lucky Circumstances you may justly comfort your Patient with the strongest and most positive Assurances of a very happy, safe, and speedy Issue.

Another Case remains (a dismal one it is), wherein you may soon determine your Judgment concerning the Event of the Labour, and the Fate

INTRODUCTION. 9

Fate of the Infant, at least: For whenever this unfortunate Case happens (as it sometimes has done, and consequently the like Instances may occur in your Practice), there can be neither a quick nor a slow Delivery, nor, in Reality, any Delivery at all, with regard to the Child, unless the unhappy Woman's Body be laid open, having the Operation perform'd on her which is called the *Cæsarean Section*, from the Account which we have from the Historians, of *Julius Cæsar's* being brought into the World by the Performance of the said Operation.

This dreadful Case, which must be fatal either to the Mother or Child, if not to both, must ever be the inevitable Consequence of a most unfortunate ill Formation of the Basen; that is to say, When the hollow Space between the Rump and Share-bone

10 INTRODUCTION.

bone shall happen to be formed by Nature so excessively narrow, that a Child of a common ordinary Size, or even the smallest *Fætus* *, cannot possibly pass between the said Bones, unless it be first dissected.

You should conceal this Case, as much as may be, from the Knowledge of the Woman; for under this Circumstance her Life may not be exposed to any immediate Danger (notwithstanding that the Child's must be lost), especially if you are careful not to be deficient in your Duty; but advise the Woman's Friends to send for a Man Midwife to your Assistance, as soon as you discover the Misfortune.

* A *Fætus* is the Title given to the Infant in the Womb, from the third Month after Conception to the End of the ninth Month, or the Time of its Birth. Before the third Month it is called an *Embryo*.

There-

INTRODUCTION. II

Therefore, the Moment you are sensible of it (if the Case should ever occur to you), declare it to some proper Persons ; and let them know, that the Child's Life must be lost, or the Mother's Body opened ; and that the Woman's Life likewise will be exposed to the utmost Hazard, if they are not very expeditious in fetching a Man Midwife to assist her ; which in this Case cannot be done by any other Means than by opening her Body, or dissecting the Child, or rather mangling it, so as to bring it into the World in sundry small Portions, according to the Discretion and Skill of the Man Midwife : For here will not be Room for the Hand to operate freely ; and in some such Cases there will scarce be found Room for the Introduction of proper Instruments.

12 INTRODUCTION.

Be very careful to conceal the Nature of this Misfortune from the Woman, nor even give her the least Suspicion of it, lest she should sink under the terrifying Apprehensions of so much Danger and Violence.

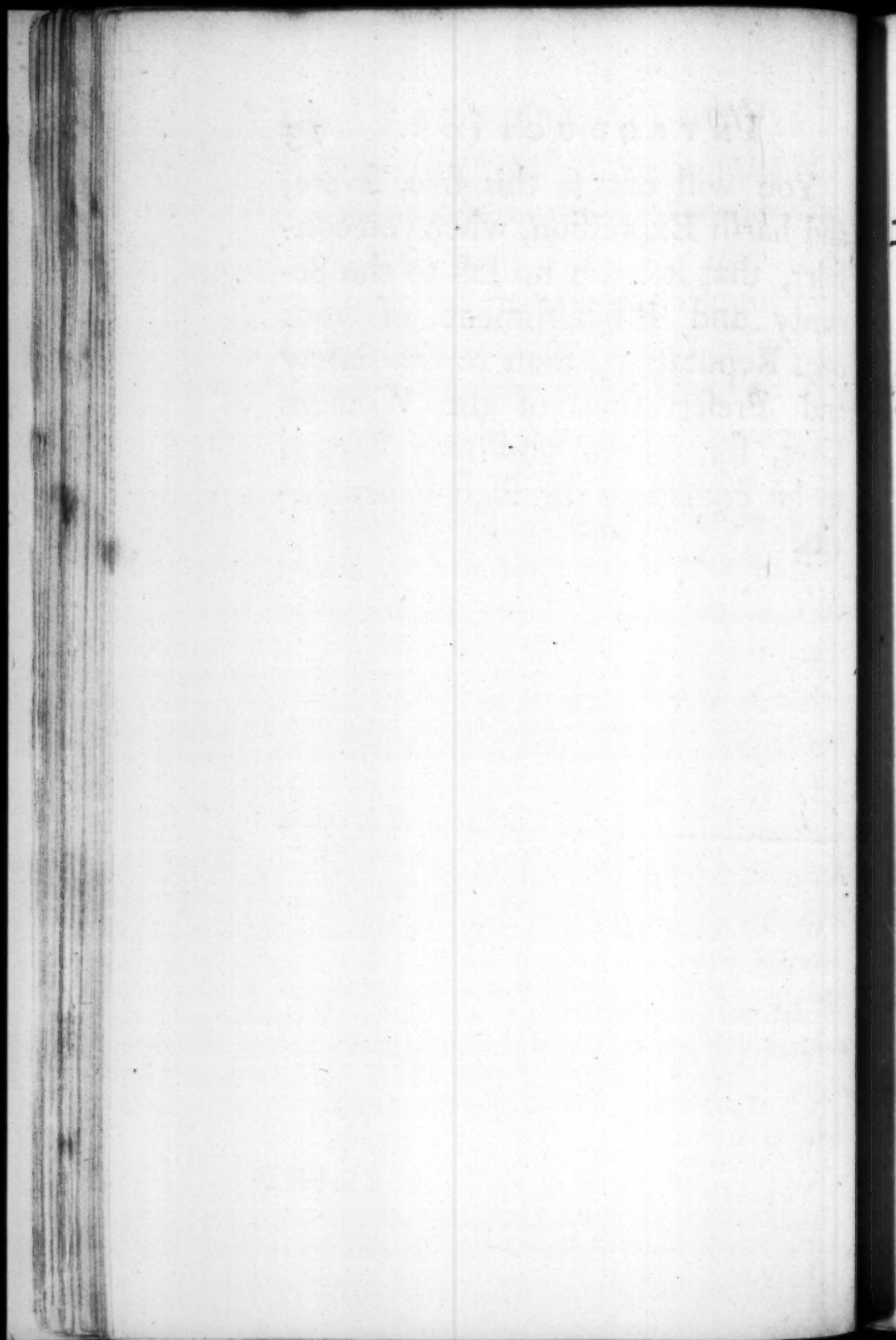
Thus you see here is no Time to be lost, lest the Woman's fruitless Pains (as they must in this Case always be) should waste her Spirits, and exhaust her Strength, and expose her to sick and fainty Fits, Convulsions, Floodings, and other dangerous Accidents and Symptoms, before a Man can be had to help her. And if, by your Neglect, you suffer these bad Symptoms to come on to any considerable Degree, in this or any other dangerous Case, you will be highly blameable, and will justly deserve to be censured as accessory to the Woman's Death.

You

INTRODUCTION. 13

You will excuse this free, severe, and harsh Expression, when you consider, that it tends no less to the Security and Establishment of your own Reputation, than to the Safety and Preservation of the Womens Lives, for whom you may happen to be concern'd in such Emergencies.

BRIEF



B R I E F
I N S T R U C T I O N S
I N
M I D W I F R Y.

S E C T I O N I.

C H A P. I.

I SHALL not make you waste your Time on a long, unnecessary, and useless Preamble ; but, according to my Declaration, I shall in the shortest and plainest Method that is in my Power, come at once to the most material Points relating to the Subject-matter in hand. To which Purpose

pose be pleased to give me your Attention, and take notice, That a Child at the Time of its Birth must pass from the Womb through that Space which is called the *Bason* of the Woman.

The *Bason* is formed of the following Bones; namely, the Share-bone, before; the Flank-bones, on the Sides; and the Rump-bone, behind; and the Hollow of these Bones is called *The Bason*.

At the lower End of the Rump is the Huckle-bone, consisting of three or four small Joints, which are pliable.

In the Birth which is properly called natural and easy, immediately after the bursting of the Membranes, or Bag which contains the Waters (in which the Child floats or swims about till the proper Time of its Birth), the Crown of the Child's
Head

Head presents itself directly at the Mouth or Opening of the inner Orifice of the Womb ; having its Face turned towards the Rump, and its Poll towards the Belly of the Mother ; and of course its Ears towards her Flanks.

Note, The bursting of the Water-bag is effected by the Woman's Pains, closely and forcibly contracting the Womb over the Surface of the said Bag, on all Sides, except the fore Part of it, where there is no Resistance, after the inner Orifice opens ; and it is the Loss of this Resistance against the fore Part of the Bag that facilitates the bursting of the said Bag, by the Force of the Woman's natural Pains.

The Child's Neck bends with the Chin downwards towards its Breast ; and in this Posture the Mother's

C

Pains

Pains (in an easy and truly natural Labour) bring the Child into the World, soon after the Discharge of the Waters; and the sooner the better after the said Discharge. And in this natural and happy Labour you will have but little to do, besides receiving the Child, and taking proper Care of the After-burden.

But if the Head should be stopped in its Passage by the Foldings of the little Neck of the Womb, or of the Sheath (commonly called the Great Neck or Passage of the Womb) you must turn back these Foldings gradually, and very gently, with your Fingers, well anointed for that Purpose, in order to procure a free and safe Delivery of the said Head: And to prevent the falling out or straining of the Womb, and its Ligaments,

* The Ligaments are four Cords which brace the Womb to the Body. Two of them are fastened to the

which has many times happened by neglecting this Precaution.

As soon as you can embrace the Head with your two Hands, you may apply them flat, on both Sides of it, with the Ends of your Fingers placed a little bending behind the Child's Ears; and so draw it gradually forwards, not in a strait Line, but moving it gently from one Side to the other.

When the Head is delivered, do not suffer any Time to be lost; but bring the Body speedily after it, lest the Neck of the Womb should contract about the Child's Neck, and thus render your Endeavours fruitless; which Misfortune has also often happened to the great Perplexity of the Mid-

Loins, and two to the upper Parts of the Thigh-bones; by which means the Womb is held in its proper Position, and cannot easily be displaced by the various Motions or Postures of the Womb, or by any other Accident.

wife, and to the great Grief and Injury of the Mother, and Child, and even sometimes to the inevitable Loss of both their Lives.

Therefore I say, as soon as the Head is delivered, you must continue drawing the Body gradually forwards without any Delay, in the above-mentioned Direction; namely, by moving it gently from one Side to the other; and also pressing it a little downwards, till the whole Child be delivered.

Neither must you operate too hastily, lest you should by that means bruise or distort the Child's Head or Body, or any of its Limbs; or lest you should unfortunately rend the Woman in the back Part of the Passage, called the *Seam* (which has also too frequently happened by too much Haste and Indiscretion), or lest you should bruise the adjacent

or neighbouring Parts of the Woman, and thereby cause Swellings, Inflammation, and Pain, and the Production of such bad and dangerous Symptoms as would readily be avoided by well observing and practising the above-mentioned Medium, or Rules of Moderation.

As soon as the Child is safely delivered, you are to take it in your Lap; or rather give it to the Nurse, or some other proper and careful Person, who should be ready to receive it in a good warm Flannel, or Swan-skin Whittle or Blanket, covering it over, and laying it carefully on one of its Sides, while you proceed to the Performance of the next Part of your Office; which is, to make a Ligature or Tie round about the Navel-strin, at the Distance of three or four Fingers Breadth from the Child's Belly; and another Tie about two

Fingers Breadth Distance from the first, on that Part of the Navel-string that leads towards the After-burden.

As soon as these Ties are made, you are to divide the Navel-string between them, with a Pair of sharp Scissars; and then immediately surrender the Child up wholly to the Care of the Nurse.

Your next Consideration will be the Care of the After-burden.

But here I shall first observe to you, that these Ties or Knots upon the Navel-string are usually made with ten or a dozen strong Threads laid together; but they should rather be made with a Piece of good strong Tape, or Inkle, which is better for this Use than Threads, because the Tape will not so readily entangle your Fingers, nor yet be so liable to cut through the Navel-string, and produce an Hæmorrhage, which may
endanger

endanger the Child's Life, and has sometimes proved fatal; as some Children have actually bled to death when this Accident has befallen them, and has not been timely discovered.

Therefore it is evident, that this Caution, howsoever trifling and unnecessary it may at first View seem to be, ought to have its proper Weight, and be duly attended to.

The first Tie you make upon the Navel-string, which will be next to the Child's Body, will be best done by a single Knot and a Bow, or Slip-knot over it; that in case by reason of its being made a little too slack, or upon the withering and shrinking of the Navel-string the Blood should happen to escape through the Knot, you need not be at the Trouble of cutting the Tape, and run the Hazard of hurting or tearing off the Navel-string too soon, besides losing so

much Time, especially if you should happen to have no Assistance near you, when you discover the Accident: But you may easily undo the Slip-knot, and draw the single Knot tighter; and then fasten the Bow again, and draw it as tight as you please to have it, without any Assistance at all; which, in case of a double Knot being first made, you could not so speedily nor so easily compass, especially if you should happen to be alone.

The second Tie will be best made with a double Knot, as it will always become useless after the Expiration of a few Minutes.

One Rule more may be necessary, and worthy your Notice, in regard of your Management of the Navel-string, on a particular occasion; which is this following; namely--In case of a violent Flooding, when Time

is most precious, and the Loss of one Minute may be the Loss of the Woman's Life, in order to be very expeditious in your Office, and to save as much Time and Blood as possible, you may omit making the second Tie about the Navel-string: And in this Case, as soon as you have made the first Tie for the Safety of the Child, and divided the Navel-string, and surrendered the Child to the Nurse, you may press the Navel-string between the Thumb and fore Finger of your left hand, as hard as you please; or you may twist the Navel-string round the Fingers of your left Hand, while with your right you proceed to fetch away the After-burden with as much Expedition as is possible; which is usually, and not improperly, done by pulling the Navel-string moderately towards you, not in a strait Line, but waving it
gra-

gradually in all Directions, upwards, downwards, from Side to Side, &c. in order to loosen the Womb cake in an even and regular manner from its Edges on all Sides inwards, towards its Centre, or middle Part; which is a good Method, insomuch as it for the most part prevents the tearing of the After-burden into sundry Parts or Portions; which has too frequently been the Consequence of fetching it away by pulling the Navel-string in a direct strait Line towards the Operator; for the Womb-cake sometimes cannot be separated from the Womb without much Force.

This Method therefore of drawing it in a strait Line, you may plainly perceive, is improper, and may prove to be highly injurious to the Woman; and this wrong Method of proceeding would frequently

ly give Rise to a Train of Misfortunes; and it actually has often been productive of many great Mischiefs, such as great and dangerous Floodings, by tearing away Part of the Womb-cake, and leaving other Parts of it behind, rending the large Blood-vessels with Violence asunder, and even tearing away Portions or Fragments of the Womb itself.

This rash and improper Method, you may also easily conceive, may produce great Pains, Inflammations, hard and painful Swellings, Impostumes of the Womb, sick and fainty Fits, Convulsions, and many other bad Events, and leave the unfortunate Woman languishing under many grievous and perilous Circumstances, which frequently terminate in Death.

Moreover, by this imprudent and unskilful Method of delivering the After-burden, the Navel-string is liable

able to be torn off from the Womb-cake, and the latter left in the Womb sticking firmly to it ; or the Womb itself may be drawn till it be inverted or turned with its Inside partly outwards ; and both these Accidents have in Reality often happened. And in good truth, there is no Certainty or Warrant to be obtained, that one of these two last-mentioned Misfortunes (of inverting the Womb, or breaking the Navel-string) shall not happen to any Woman whose Midwife shall attempt to deliver her After-burden by the Help of the Navel-string alone, notwithstanding her utmost Precaution in handling it in the most tender manner, and waving it carefully about, from Side to Side, with all her Art, as has been mentioned above ; and even the Womb-cake itself may be torn, notwithstanding this cautious Method of proceeding.

This

This may be sufficient to demonstrate to you, how proper and necessary it is, that you should use the greatest Precaution, and be very circumspect, in all your Proceedings in this nice and critical Affair; for a complete Delivery of the After-burden is absolutely of as great Importance, in regard of the Woman's Safety, as the Delivery of the Child itself.

Therefore the best Method of delivering the After-burden will ever be found to be by the Introduction of your Hand into the Cavity of the Womb, and thus separating the Womb-cake gradually and carefully with your Fingers, as you would do the Pulp of an Orange from the Rind, without breaking it; beginning at the lower Edge which is next to you; which is the best way, because thus the Cake will naturally incline

cline itself towards your Hand, and drop directly into it; whereas if you should begin its Separation at its yondermost Edge, it would rather depart from your Hand, or incumber it, and you could not so readily command it.

When you have totally separated the Cake from the Womb, let it lie in the Hollow of your Hand, and help to draw it out, by pulling the Navel-string with your other Hand; because if you attempt to grasp it with the Hand which it is in, hard enough to draw it away, you will, by the doubling of your First, commonly hurt the Woman; which would be an unnecessary Piece of Cruelty, unless the Navel-string should happen to be torn off by some undextrous Person, before you are engaged; or be so rotten as to break in your Hand; which latter Case
will

will hardly ever happen, when you conduct yourself as is here directed.

One Method more, in regard of the Management of the Navel-string, may also be practised occasionally; I mean in the Case of a very violent Flooding: For when this terrible and most dangerous Circumstance befalls the Woman, for Expedition's sake, you need not tie the Navel-string at all, till after she is completely delivered of both the Child and After-burthen.

Yet be not confused, but only desire a careful Person to press the Navel-string pretty tightly between her Fingers and Thumb, near the usual Place of making the Ligature or Tie, while you fetch away the After-burden. Or in case the After-burden should come first (as will sometimes happen in Floodings), you may desire the said Assistant to hold the

Womb-cake in her Hand, or rather in a Bason or Dish, while you deliver the Child; which in this Case cannot be done with too much Expedition. But your Assistant need not press the Navel-string when the After-burden comes first.

If a Person of good Judgment and Courage be your Assistant, she may make the Tie on the Navel-string, while you are finishing your Work, if it should be the Child that comes first, but not otherwise; and as soon as she has made the Ligature, she may divide the String, and take the Child away, and deliver it to the Nurse; and you may inspect her Work after you have done your own, if you think proper, at your Leisure. The singular Use and Benefit to the Woman and Child, and the great Advantage that will accrue to yourself from the constant Practice of
fetching

sure G U I D E. 33

fetching away the After-burden by the Introduction of your Hand into the Cavity of the Womb, will also yet appear in a more conspicuous manner, when you come to consider the Nature of double or treble Births; and the right and direct Method of proceeding in those Cases where you meet with Twins, or Three or more Children to be delivered.

You must take the Navel-string for your Guide to the Womb-cake; and then proceed to the Delivery of it, according to the foregoing Rule.

Immediately after the Delivery of the Child, the sooner you introduce your Hand in order to fetch away the After-burden, the better; as it will be much easier, and more commodious, both for your Patient and yourself, while the Mouth of the Womb remains relaxed, and wide
D open,

open, as it always is immediately after the Delivery of the Child ; for then you may easily introduce your Hand, and the Woman will scarce ever be sensible of any Pain, from your doing it ; whereas, if you make any Delay, the Mouth of the Womb will sometimes, even in a few Minutes, be so closely shut up, that you cannot possibly introduce your Hand at all, nor scarce pass up two of your Fingers, without creating to the Woman intolerable Pains.

When you introduce your Hand into the Womb, in order to fetch away the After-burden, you may also at the same time easily discover if there be any other Child or Children, Mole, or false Conception, Clods of Blood, or any thing else, natural, or contrary to Nature, contained in the Womb ; and if you find any such Body or Bodies

dies therein contained, you are by this means ready prepared to fetch them directly away ; and you are also well qualified to make a true and satisfactory Report to any By-standers, Relation, or Friend of the Woman, for whom it may be proper to inquire into the State and Circumstances of the Woman's Condition.

Moreover, there is no other Rule or Method, whereby you can proceed with any Certainty, or form to yourself any tolerable Degree of Judgment how to act for your Patient's Safety, or your own Reputation.

Neither is there any other Method of discovering or knowing how to give a true and satisfactory Report to any Person whom it may concern to examine you.

These just and reasonable Reflections should naturally lead you to a serious Consideration of what an inconsiderable, mean, poor, and ridiculous Figure you must make in the World, when by the Practice of imperfect Methods you remain not only unqualified for making any true, reasonable, or satisfactory Report, to those whose Right it is to be satisfied by you of your Patient's Condition ; but also by a defective Knowledge in your Art, and consequently by artless Proceedings, you expose the Lives of all the Women and Children committed to your Care, to all Sorts of Hazards that can possibly attend the most difficult and dangerous Labours, or the most imperfect and cruel Deliveries ; and must often leave them languishing under the most horrid and deplorable

able Circumstances : to be cruelly tortured, and perhaps mangled, to no purpose ; when it is, by your Deficiency or Neglect, become too late for Art to do any good Service.

These Reflections should also make you stir and exert yourself in the Study and Practice of your Art, with strict Application, and unwearied Diligence ; and should also excite you to spare no Pains in learning and acquiring a competent Degree of good and useful Knowledge therein ; which is the only Means whereby you can acquire a just Applause as a skilful Practitioner in your Art, and make any considerable Figure in your Vocation, or Calling.

I believe the candid and ingenious Readers will readily excuse this Digression, if they will put on it a right Construction, and duly consider, how necessary and weighty a Piece of Advice it may prove to be to some unthinking and unskilful Women, who never had an Opportunity of acquiring the necessary Instructions, yet in whose Province the Practice of this illustrious Art may happen to lie; and whose Time may be constantly employed in assisting their pregnant or child-bearing Neighbours and Friends; and their Care wholly taken up in endeavouring to promote the safe Delivery, and guarding the Lives of the Women and Children committed to the Dexterity of their Hands;

Hands ; and relying on their Skill
and Judgment, for the necessary
and proper Assistance, in the Hours
of their greatest Distress, Anxiety,
and Danger.

THE GUIDE

and rising on the hill
to the summit for the necessity
of the general interest
of the people.

B R I E F
I N S T R U C T I O N S
I N
M I D W I F R Y.

S E C T I O N II.

I N T R O D U C T I O N.

WHAT has been hitherto declared, has been principally relating to easy, natural, and single Births.

I have only touched in my Way upon an unlucky Formation of the

the Bafon ; and occasionally mentioned a Flooding, chiefly fo far as it concerns the Delivery of the After-burden.

Now I fhall proceed to offer you fome Instructions in Cafes that are more difficult, and direct you how to conduct yourfelf fo as to preferve the Lives of the Women and Children entrusted in your Hands ; and to give them and their Friends all the reasonable Satisfaction that can be defired, on your Part, upon all Occafions ; and alfo at the fame time to preferve your own Credit, and eftablifh a good and lafting Reputation, upon the folid Foundation of good Judgment and Integrity.

In

In order to fulfil my Promise to you, I shall now in this Second Section consider and represent to you some difficult Labours that are not attended with much Danger, if a Person of moderate Skill be applied to, and gives her Attendance in a seasonable Time: And afterwards I shall, in the Third Section, proceed to the Consideration of Cases of a more dangerous Nature; and likewise direct you how to manage with Discretion, and with the greatest Probability of Success, under God, when you are involv'd in those very great Difficulties; so that you may be not too much perplex'd or confused when you are engaged in Cases of such vast Emergence.

Thus

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Thus you will find, that this Second Section will consist of divers Chapters, containing a Variety of difficult Cases that frequently occur in the Practice of Midwifry: And herein will be set forth the proper and only reasonable Methods of proceeding, in order to conduct the Women with Safety, who labour under those different Circumstances; which although they are not attended with very imminent and immediate Danger to either the pregnant Women, or their Infants; yet they are much more difficult and laborious than the natural and easy Labour, which has been the Subject of the foregoing Section; and they will generally create much more Labour and Pain

Pain to the Woman in her Travail, and more Trouble and Fatigue to the Midwife, in the Administration of her Assistance: Neither, if they should be much neglected, or injudiciously treated, would they be free from very great Dangers, and even fatal Consequences.

C H A P. I.

Of Slack Pains.

IN this Case, if you are called to assist the Woman before the Water-bag is broke open, and the Waters gone off; and if, upon Examination by your Touch, you are satisfied, that the Woman is truly in Labour; you may cause her to walk frequently in her Chamber; and if she be weak, she may be supported by strong Assistants; and you may direct her sometimes to sit, and other-times to lie down; often shifting and changing her Posture: And
you

you may give her any sort of strong Snuff, or a little Hellebore, Pepper, Race-ginger newly grated, or whatever will provoke her to sneeze. You may burn Tobacco, Feathers, Rags, or the like, under her Nose; for these simple Things will make her strive, and sometimes provoke the Womb to powerful Contractions; insomuch as to effect not only the necessary Discharge of the Waters, but also the Expulsion of the Child.

If she should be fainty, you may give her two or three Spoonfuls of Hysteric Water, or strong Cinnamon Water, with a Spoonful of Syrup of Clove-gillyflowers in it; or any good comfortable Cordial, and some nourishing Broths, Jellies, or Caudles; and she

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ſhe may take ſome Wine with Yolks of Eggs, Spices, and Sugar in it. But obſerve, if ſhe ſhould be taken with the leaſt Degree of a Flooding, you muſt beware of giving her any ſpirituſous Liquor.

If the Waters are gone off before you come to her, you may uſe the ſame Methods as are directed above; and adviſe her to hold in her Breath ſtrongly, and to bear down hard when her Pains are on.

You may give her a few Drops of the chymical Oil of Juniper; mix'd with a Tea Spoonful or two of Sugar, and diſſolv'd in a Glaſs of warm Water, to which you may add a Glaſs of White-wine; or you may diſſolve it in a Draught of warm Penny-royal Water.

She

She may take from 15, to 20, 25, or 30 Drops of this Oil, for a Dose, according to her Strength.

Or you may give her a Glass of good Juniper-water (that which is called *Holland* Geneva is to be preferred) in a Draught of warm Mild-beer, with an agreeable Quantity of Sugar in it, and an Egg, if she likes it; and some Nutmeg may be added to it: Or you may give the Juniper-water in some white Caudle.

If the foregoing Means prove ineffectual, you may introduce your Fingers and Hand, well anointed with the softening Liniment which you will find prescribed in the Catalogue of Medicines, at the End of this Book; or with some Butter, Lard, Sweet-oil, or what-

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ever else you can procure of this Kind, as far as you can conveniently reach, without using too much Violence, under the Forehead of the Child, between it and the Mother's Rump and Hucklebone; and withdraw your Hand again. And this you may frequently repeat, with the Return of the Pains: For by this means you will irritate the Womb to Contractions, and stir up and quicken the Pains, till by degrees you obtain the Expulsion of the Child.

If the Woman be feverish, and full of Blood, from eight to ten or twelve Ounces may be drawn from her Arm, more or less, according to her Strength and Size.

If

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If all these Means should fail of Success, she may also take a Vomit of Ipecacuanha, about 30 Grains for a Doze; or any other mild vomiting Medicine: But this should be directed by a Man Midwife; and you must be very careful never to give a Vomit, unless you are absolutely certain, that the Child presents in a right Posture; and that the Head is in the Bason, or small enough to enter it.

The Introduction of your Hand will be best put in Practice while the Woman's Pains are upon her; because at this Time she will not be so sensible of your hurting her, as she would be when her Pains are off.

Or if she has no Pains at all, and the Waters are gone off, you

may practice this Method now-and-then, in order to stir up Pains; and you may in this Case also have recourse to the foregoing Drinks and Medicines: For after the Waters are gone off, it is dangerous delaying the Delivery long, notwithstanding the Woman may be perfectly at Ease, and free from all manner of bad Symptoms; by reason that the Womb will gradually contract itself closely about the Child, and grow dry and rigid, in some measure like a Bladder that has been moistened and distended, by filling it with warm Water; and is almost dried again after the Evacuation of the Water: And when the Case is thus, it is not difficult to conceive what must be the Consequence of such

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a Delivery, if you only imagine, that along with the warm Water, a large Piece of Flesh, or Wood, had been put into the Bladder above-mentioned ; but when the Water was poured out of the Bladder, the Flesh, or Wood, was left behind, and remained in it, till it was dry, or near being so : And then consider how you would take the Flesh, or Wood, out of the Bladder, when thus contracted and dried, or near dry, without rending the Mouth of it thro' which the Flesh or Wood must be drawn out ; or else lessening the Flesh or Wood itself, by cutting or tearing it into divers Parts.

This may seem a strange Comparison ; but it will always hold good, and be verified more or less,

according to the Difference of Womens Constitutions and Ages, and to the Length of Time the Delivery is delay'd after the Waters are gone off.

Before the Waters are gone off, there is no Danger in waiting, unless bad Symptoms come on, such as fainty Fits, Convulsions, and Floodings.

If these come on, you must directly deliver her ; or, if you cannot effect the Delivery yourself, you must immediately send for a Man Midwife to assist you : For after these dangerous Symptoms, no Pains are to be expected.

When you introduce your Hand, or Fingers, in order to stir up Pains by the artificial Irritation of the Womb from thence arising, let them

them always be placed under the Forehead of the Child, as above directed, or thereabout : Because if you conduct your Fingers on the opposite Side towards the Child's Poll, you must pass them close to the urinary Passage, and immediately under the Share-bone ; by which means you cannot fail of pressing tightly with the Back of your Hand upon the Neck of the Woman's Bladder : And by so doing you will necessarily squeeze the Bladder very hard between your Hand and the Share-bone ; and will bruise and weaken it to that violent Degree as to endanger an Incontinence of Urine ever after.

This Misfortune often happens ; and as it is of a very troublesome and melancholy Kind, so it is highly

worthy your Regard to be careful in preventing it, by observing and well remembring this Caution, and some others, which I shall give you, to the like Effect, in some of the following Chapters.

I have known some Women, and have heard of many others, who have labour'd under an Incontinence of Urine, from hard Labours, many Years; and without Doubt they must suffer it as long as they live; for the Cure of this Malady is very difficult, and but seldom to be effected. On the other hand, if you follow the Direction here given, by virtue of placing your Fingers and Hand between the Child's Forehead, and the Mother's Rump and Hucklebone, you will not only avoid the
Danger

Danger of doing the Injury above-mentioned, but you will also be able, in some measure, to facilitate the Birth of the Child, by bending the Huckle-bone a little backwards; for it is pliable, and will yield to the Pressure made upon it by the Back of your Hand.

Note, It is often observ'd, that slack Pains are occasioned by particular Longings: Therefore whenever you meet with this Deficiency of good Pains, you should be very inquisitive, in order to inform yourself, if the Woman has any such Longing; and if you can discover that she has, endeavour to find out what it is that her Appetite craves, and to procure it for her: And if you can contrive
to

to procure it, and have it presented to her without her Knowledge, it will be so much the better. Therefore you should consult with her Friends about it privately, and never be seen to act in it yourself, if you can possibly avoid it; and you will find, that the Satisfaction of these extraordinary Desires, if done in any reasonable Time, will scarce ever fail of producing the good and salutary Effects that are requisite upon this Occasion.

CHAP. II.

Of a Woman being naturally very weak; or fatigued and weakened by a long or difficult Labour.

WHEN a Woman is either very weak by the natural Habit or Constitution of her Body; or is render'd so by a long, or painful, difficult, and fatiguing Labour; it will be proper for you to advise her to a nourishing and strengthening Diet, consisting not of solid Food, but of that which is commonly called Spoon-meat; such as Broths of Chicken, Mutton, or the like, with good Pot-herbs in it, and Marigold-flowers, &c.

&c. Hartshorn Jelly, and Sagoe, with Spices, particularly the best Cinnamon, boil'd in it ; mulled Wine with Cinnamon, Yelks of Eggs, &c. But give her no relaxing Broths, or Gruels, such as Veal-broth, Oatmeal, or Barley-gruels, or the like, for these would weaken her. Of the before-mentioned let her sup not much at a time, but little, and often. She may eat an Egg poach'd, and drink with it a little Claret, or good *Port* Wine, red, or white ; or a Glafs of *Madeira*, or good dry *Malaga*, is an excellent Cordial ; and a little *Seville* Orange, or right *Lisbon* Lemon Juice, in any thing she likes, will refresh her mightily.

She may also take a Tea Spoonful or two of the Confection of Kermes ;

Kermes ; or the like Quantity of the Juice of Kermes Berries, mix'd with half a Spoonful, or a Spoonful of Syrup of Clove Gilliflowers, and a Spoonful or two of strong Cinnamon-water, or Nutmeg-water ; to which may be added a Drop or two of chymical Oil of Nutmeg ; and above all Things, in this Case, give her Rest upon her Bed ; and in order to promote her Repose, especially if she has been exhausted by a fatiguing and painful Labour, and cannot rest without it, give her a Spoonful or two of Syrup of Cowslips, or a few Drops of Doctor *Sydenham's* liquid *Laudanum*, in a large Glass of Baum and Spearmint Water, with half a Spoonful of slender Cinnamon-water in it, and as much compound

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compound Peony - water ; and sweeten it with a Spoonful of Syrup of Clove-gilliflowers.

If by this means you can procure for the fatigued Woman a Nap of good comfortable Sleep, it will yield her so great a Refreshment as will generally be sufficient to rouse and keep up the necessary Pains, to the Accomplishment of a happy Delivery.

You must not exceed the Number of 15 or 20 Drops of the liquid *Laudanum*, on your own Head ; but if you find that Dose will not answer your Purpose, you should recommend the Advice of a Physician or Man Midwife.

CHAP. III.

Of the Membranes, called the Water-bag, being too thick, or strong; or the Navel-string twisted about the Child's Neck or Limbs, before the Opening of the Bag.

OF this Case you must form your Judgment from your Observation—thus: If the full Time of the Woman's Reckoning be completed, and the Pains come on, and advance regularly to a true and natural Labour; and the inner Orifice, or Mouth of the Womb, opens and yields gradually and regularly to the Impulse or Force of the said Pains; and those Pains continue and keep up
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in full Strength and Vigour, till the Mouth of the Womb be properly and sufficiently dilated or opened, insomuch as to make sufficient Room for a full grown *Fœtus* or Infant to pass through it, being of an ordinary Size; and if, after Things are thus circumstanced, the Pains and Throws continue to be duly repeated, sharp and strong for a reasonable Time, without producing the natural and necessary Effect of breaking open the Water-bag—Then you will have good Reason to suspect that the Membranes of the Bag are too strong in Proportion to the Pains and Strength of the Woman: And if you can feel no Part of the Child through the Membranes, you may be well assured, that the
Navel-

Navel-string is either twisted about the Child's Neck or Limbs, or that it is excessively short, or else that the Child lies in a cross Position.

In this Case you may wait a while with Patience; and give the Woman some comforting Nourishment, and a little *Holland* Geneva in some warm mild Beer, or in a white Caudle, or in any agreeable Liquor, while her Strength remains in full Vigour.

But, whenever her Strength begins to flag, or the least bad Symptom appears (things remaining in the abovesaid Condition), it will be proper for you to open the Bag artificially, and seek immediately for the Feet, and thus bring the Child directly into the World; remembering to make the proper
F Turn,

Turn, in order to place the Face right, if it should happen to lie wrong, before the Body be too far advanced in the Passage. The Method of making this Turn, to lay the Face right, you will see in the VIIth Chapter of this Section.

While you break open the Bag, and search for the Feet, and turn the Child, it will be best to keep up the Waters, by blocking up the Passage with your Arm in it; for by this means you will the more readily come at the Child's Feet, and also the more easily turn its Body, if necessary, and deliver it.

If you find the Navel-string twisted, you must either untwist it, or cut it.

If

If you cannot untwist it, you must cut it before you deliver the Child, unless it lies very loose and slack; lest otherwise you should give rise to a Flooding, by tearing away the Womb-cake before the Delivery of the Child, or to some other bad Accident; particularly an Inversion of the Womb; which would, in this Case, be very likely to happen, if the Womb-cake should stick very fast, and this Precaution be neglected.

Upon this Occasion, if you cannot untwist the Navel-string, but are obliged to cut it, you must make the two Ligatures about it, and cut between them, unless it lies out of your Reach; which if it should happen to do, you must tie that Part next the Child's Body

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as soon as you can command it, either before the Delivery, or afterwards, as it may be most commodious to you, or rather as it may be within the Compass of your Power; for herein Necessity will commonly govern your Choice.

You must be very careful and expeditious in this Delivery; for, on the one hand, when the Navel-string is cut before the Delivery, and you cannot command it, so as to tie it, till afterwards, the Child may bleed to Death; and, on the other hand, if the String be tied before the Child be delivered, it may in a little time be suffocated: For, after the Circulation of the Blood through the Navel-string is stopped, the Child
cannot

cannot subsist long alive without breathing ; which it never can do before it be born.

This also shews you, when the Navel-string presents, how dangerous it is to let it long remain pressed between the Child's Head and the Edge of the Basin.

If you can discover the String to be very short, it may be likewise proper to cut it before the Delivery ; for you will not lose near so much Blood that way, as from the too hasty and violent Disunion of the Womb-cake ; which must happen in delivering the Child's Body, either in this Case, or where the String remains twisted about the Neck or Limbs.

CHAP. IV.

Of the Navel-string being found twisted about the Child, after opening of the Bag, and flowing away of the Waters.

WHEN this happens to be the Case, if you cannot search it out, and discover it by the Touch of your Fingers (which you will scarce ever do when the Head presents right), you may judge it to be so, if, after every Pain, the Child is drawn suddenly back again to the Place it was in before the Pain.

In order to promote the Delivery, if the Head presents right,
you

you may oil one of your Fingers, and introduce it into the strait Gut; and, by this means, you may press your Finger tight against the Child's Forehead, and endeavour to fix it, so that it may not fly back again after the Pains; pressing, at the same time, with your other Hand, upon the Woman's Belly, a little above the Share-Bone: Thus you will properly assist the Pains, in order to procure the Expulsion of the Child's Head: And, as soon as you have effected this Part of the Delivery, examine the Child's Neck; and, if you find the Navel-string there, either untwist it, or cut it, as Necessity may determine your Resolution: Or, if you find it twisted about an

Arm, or any other Part, you must do the like; and proceed with Caution and Expedition, for the Reasons above-mentioned.

If it should be a Cross-birth, and under these Circumstances of the Navel-string, you may conduct yourself according to the Rules mentioned in the foregoing Chapter, as soon as you discover the Case,

C H A P. V.

Of the Head presenting right, but sticking in the Basin.

WHEN the Child's Head sticks, if the Basin be not much narrower than ordinary, or the Head does not seem to

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to be locked in between the Bones
excessively tight, you may try
what you can do by anointing
your Fingers very well, and gently
introducing them, and sliding
them softly round about the Head,
and bearing pretty tightly against
the Woman's Huckle-bone, which
will give way, and make you a
little more Room: But beware of
making any Pressure under the
fore Part of the Share-bone, or
using any great Force on that
Part of the Child's Head which
lies next to it; because, by so
doing, you may injure the Wo-
man's Bladder, as has been ob-
served before; and likewise hurt
the Child's Brain, which is more
susceptible of an Injury in that
Part of the Head than before,
both

both on Account of its natural Constitution, and the Openness of the Mold, and also the Pliableness of the tender Infant's Skull.

You may also give some nourishing Broth between whiles, and a good Cordial, such as has been mentioned before, in order to promote and strengthen the Pains.

Examine also carefully into the State of the Urine-bladder, and satisfy yourself whether it be full or empty ; which you must learn chiefly from the Report of the Woman herself, or her Attendants ; for you cannot, with any great Certainty, distinguish much of it by your Touch ; neither are there any Symptoms of a full Bladder that can be altogether relied on : Therefore you must inquire if she

4

has

has lately made her Water pretty freely, or very sparingly ; or if she has a total Suppression of Urine ; and, if you find the Discharge of it has been very sparing, or that she labours under a total Stoppage of it, you may be well assured that her Bladder is pretty full ; and then you must send for a Man-midwife, or some Surgeon, to draw off her Urine with his Catheter : Or else you will endanger a great Strain and Relaxation of the Muscle or Cord that closes the Neck of the Bladder, and consequently an Incontinence of Urine. Besides, the Evacuation, or Emptying of the Bladder of Urine, will often greatly facilitate the Birth, as it certainly makes

makes more Room; and also gives the Woman much Ease.

If she be costive, give her a Glyster; and, even whether she be costive or no, a Glyster will often hasten the Birth; as it naturally excites strong Irritations on the Guts, and great Strivings, and powerful Contractions, on the Muscles of the Belly, and all the adjacent or neighbouring Parts, by Consent; and also affords you somewhat more Room.

As there is no certain Knowledge obtainable in regard of the Quantity of Urine contained in the Bladder, I think, indeed, it should be a standing Rule always to use the Catheter, in this and all other difficult, laborious, and turning Cases; especially where the

the Difficulty arises from the Largeness of the Child, or of any particular Part of it ; not only as it facilitates the Birth, by gaining Room for the Child, and giving much Ease to the Mother ; but because it may also prevent the straining and bruising of the Bladder, and consequently an incontinence of Urine, as mentioned before : For, where the Bladder is greatly distended, by being full of Urine, it will always be liable to great Strains and Bruises, from the Largeness of a Child, or from the Hand or Instruments that must necessarily be used in some difficult Labours, and turning Cases ; and, in these Circumstances, the guiding both of the Hand and Instruments in many various Directions and Positions

Positions will often become unavoidable.

If, by the Use of these means, you find the Head coming, guard the Seam (which lies in the Space between the back and outer Part of the Passage and the Fundament), by pressing against it with your Hand or Fingers, to prevent its being rent; of which it will be in great Danger: For you may be sure the Child's Head is pretty large in this Case, otherwise it would not stick in the Basin.

But if, by the Help of your own Hands, and the Woman's Pains, joined with the Methods above directed, you cannot obtain the Delivery of the Child's Head in a reasonable time, do not wait
till

till bad Symptoms come on upon the Woman; but send for a Man-midwife to assist you with his Forceps, or what other Instruments he may think convenient: Otherwise, under this difficult and unlucky Circumstance, you will seldom fail to forfeit your own Reputation; and, which is yet much worse, you will cast away the Lives of both the Woman and her Child.

CHAP. VI.

*Of the Feet presenting; the Child
on its Belly.*

IN this Case, if you are at all circumspect, or observant of plain and easy Rules, neither much Trouble will arise to yourself, nor Danger to the Woman or Child; only, as soon as you have discovered the Feet, beware of Twins; lest you should lay hold of two Feet belonging to two different Children, and so split them both, and at the same time ruin the Mother.

In order to avoid this Accident,
you have nothing more to do
than

than to pass your Fingers up so far as the Bottom of the Child's Belly, Breech, or Bearing-place, taking both Legs and Thighs for your Guide; and, when you have satisfied yourself, that the Feet are Fellows, you are, as soon as the Mouth of the Womb is properly relaxed and dilated, or opened, directly to draw out the Feet, Legs, and Thighs, and wrap a warm soft Napkin about them, that they may not slip out of your Hands.

Being also satisfied, by the Position of the Toes, Knees, &c. that the Child lies with its Belly right to its Mother's Back, you are to bring it directly into the World; and, as soon as you have delivered the Child, take care of

G the

the After-burden, as already directed.

In this Birth you may bring down the Hands and Arms by the Sides of the Child's Body, if you can easily accomplish it: But if you cannot readily get at them, it is of no very material Consequence, and it need not give you much Concern; for they can easily come down by the Sides of the Temples, which are flat, pliable, and somewhat hollow, and narrower than the other Part of the Head; so that there can be no Lack of Room for the Arms to come down, lying close upon them; and the Dimension of a well-form'd Bason will let them pass in that Position rather easier than the Shoulders with the Arms down. Either

Either of these Methods of bringing down the Arms, or leaving them up, may be practised indifferently, in all Cases where the Feet and lower Parts are first presented ; and in all turning Cases ; as in those the inferior Parts must always be first delivered : Yet it may be best to bring down the Arms, if you can compass it without much Violence, lest a Distortion should happen ; which Accident I have known befall several Children, one of them being my own younger Brother.

If you meet with any Difficulty in extracting the Head, support the Child's Body with one Hand under its Breast and Belly, while you apply your other to its Neck, with the Tip of a Finger or

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two in its Mouth ; and thus pull the Neck gently, shifting it from Side to Side, and turning it round a little way, and back again ; and at the same time, with your Finger in the Mouth, bend the lower Jaw down towards the Breast ; which will help you to deliver the Head, and also prevent its Separation from the Body ; which might be the Consequence of pulling at the Body only, and has really often been so, when the Head has stuck in the Basin.

When you perceive the Lips of the Womb on the Stretch, guard the Seam by pressing your Fingers hard against it, that it may not be rent ; and to make the Head pass the easier, lift the Body a little upwards at this Time.

CHAP.

C H A P. VII.

*Of the Feet presenting ; the Child
on its Back.*

FIRST satisfy yourself, that the Feet are Fellows, by sliding your Fingers to the Bearing-place, as already mentioned ; and then, the Mouth of the Womb being first properly relaxed, draw out the Feet, Legs, and Thighs, and wrap a warm soft Napkin about them, that they may not slip out of your Hands ; and when you have drawn them out so far as to have the upper Part of the Thighs or Hips without the Pas-

G 3 sage,

sage, you will know by the Situation of the Toes, Knees, &c. that the Child does not lie right: Therefore as soon as the upper Part of the Thighs are advanced without the Passage, as above mentioned, you must turn them round, till you have laid the Face and Belly of the Child towards its Mother's Back, and Rump - bone, which you will be sensible of by viewing or feeling the Thighs, Knees, and Toes.

When it is thus situate, you are to bring it directly into the World; and then take care of the Afterburden, in such a Manner as has been sufficiently explained already.

You may bring down the Arms, if you can effect it without much
Force;

Force ; or you may, in this Case, bring down one of them only, if you cannot easily come at them both ; and then let it be the Arm that turn'd uppermost towards the Mother's Belly, at the Time when you turn'd the Child round, in order to lay its Belly and Face right ; for the other Arm will not be so liable to be distorted, by being left up.

While you are making the Turn in order to lay the Child right on its Belly, rather push the Body up a little towards the Bottom of the Womb, than draw it outwards, while you make the said Turn.

Also, when you have turn'd the Child round, in order to lay the Belly and Face right, and you are sensible, that the Belly is to the

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Mother's Rump, turn it yet a little farther about, and then turn it back on its Belly again, before you complete the Delivery of it; for this little Turn more than may seem requisite, may help to lay the Face right; as the Head may happen to be clasped about, or confined, in some measure, by the Foldings of the Bottom of the Womb (which always contracts or draws itself together, immediately upon the going off of the Waters), and consequently not turn so fast as the Body; the Infant's Neck also being very weak and pliant,

C H A P.

CHAP. VIII.

Of the Head pitched on the Share-bone.

TO disengage the Head from the Share-bone, you must direct the Woman to be laid on her Back, with her Head and Breast low, and her Hips elevated very high, on soft doubled Beds or Bolsters, or the like Conveniency [A large Bedstead turning up with Hinges might be useful on this Occasion]: She may be placed even with her Head downwards, and Hips upright; and while she remains in this Posture, her Body may be gently shifted, from Side to

to Side, by strong Women. In the mean time you may assist with your Hand in the Womb, in order to bring the Head to its proper Position, by pushing against the Shoulders, &c. and you may press with your other Hand just above the Share-bone, or direct an Assistant to do it for you.

If by these means you can disengage the Head, and lay it right, you are to proceed as in a common natural Labour.

If you cannot bring the Head right, you must directly run your Hand along the Body, till you come at the Feet, and lay hold of them, and draw them down, and extract them, and the Legs and Thighs; and then carefully observe the Toes and Knees, in
order

order to see whether the Child lies right on its Belly, or no; and if not, turn it about till it be so: And thus finish your Delivery of the Body and Head in the manner as has been before mentioned.

C H A P. IX.

Of the Head pitched in the Groin.

IN order to turn off the Head from the Groin into its natural Position, you must proceed in the like manner as is directed in disengaging it from the Share-bone; sinking the Head and Body low, and elevating the Hips very high; only, instead of laying the Woman
on

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on her Back, as in that Case, let her, in this, be laid on that Side which is opposite to the Groin where the Head is pitch'd.

If thus you can place the Head right, proceed as in a natural Labour : But if Things do not succeed according to your Hopes, in a reasonable Time, push up the Body and Head, and seek for the Feet, and bring them down, and deliver as already directed ; observing the necessary Turns and Cautions in laying the Belly and Face right.

CHAP. X.

Of the Face presenting.

WHEN the Face presents, it is necessary, in the first place, to be very careful in distinguishing it from any other Part, and to handle it very tenderly, that you may not hurt the Eyes; and when you are well satisfied as to the Nature of the Case, you may endeavour by gentle Methods to reduce the Head to its proper Situation.

First, let the Woman be laid on her Back, with her Head and Body low, and her Hips well elevated; then push the Face gently
back

back with your Fingers, as flat as you can place them, carefully avoiding the Eyes ; and endeavour by degrees to gain Room enough to slide your Fingers over the Face and Neck, till you can reach the Shoulders. When you can command them, push them up, and work with your Fingers, till you have placed the Head right : Then withdraw your Hand, and attend the Woman's Pains, and proceed as in a common Labour.

But while you are at work to bring the Head right, if you should discover the Body to be wrong turn'd (which if it happens, you may readily distinguish, if you regard the Position of the Face), you must send for a
Man

Man Midwife, to assist you with his Forceps, or other proper Instruments; or seek for the Feet, and bring them down, in order to accomplish the Delivery by that means.

CHAP. XI.

Of the Navel-string presenting.

WHenever the Navel-string presents before the Child, you must endeavour to return it gently back into the Womb, examining at the same time, whether the Head points right: And if it does, when you have fixed the Navel-string, you will have

2 nothing

nothing more to do than in a common Labour.

But if by your Touch you discover, that it is some other Part presents, you are then to conduct yourself according to the Rules laid down in the Chapter relating to that particular Posture.

If you cannot keep the Navel-string up, it will be necessary to be the more expeditious in the Delivery.

CHAP. XII.

*Of the Knees presenting ; the Child
on its Belly.*

THE next Step you are to take, after you have discover'd the Knees, will be to pass your Fingers between them to the Bearing, in order to learn, whether they both belong to the same Body ; and when you are satisfied that they do so, you need not push them up to reach the Feet ; but when you find the Mouth of the Womb sufficiently relaxed, draw the Knees down, with the Legs folded, as they lie, till the Feet drop out of themselves.

H Then

Then being satisfied also that the Child's Belly and Face lie right, finish the Delivery as in all Footling Cases.

CHAP. XIII.

*Of the Head presenting right;
but one or both Hands in the
Passage.*

WHEN in this Posture, if the Child be of a small or moderate Size, and the Basin of a good Proportion; you will have but little more Work to do than in a common natural Labour; for you may either gently push back the Hands with your Fingers; or you may place them smooth on
I the

the Hollow of the Child's Temples, and draw down the Arms, and thus extract them together with the Head.

But if this cannot be done, by reason of a Disproportion in the Parts of the Mother and Child, you may try to get up the Hands, and then proceed as in any common natural Labour: But if you cannot get even the Hands up, without also pushing away the Head, and turning it out of its proper Position; your best way will then be not to keep the Woman long in Suspense, but to search directly for the Feet, by sliding your Hand along the Child's Body, which will infallibly guide you to them; and when you have got hold of them, draw them down,

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with your Fingers, to the Mouth of the Womb; and as you draw the Feet down, the Body and Head will of course turn themselves round towards the Bottom of the Womb.

Then draw out the Feet, Legs, and Thighs, and draw a warm soft Napkin about them, and observe their Situation: If they lie right, deliver accordingly; but if they are wrong, turn them right, according to the Rules before-mentioned; and thus finish the Delivery.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIV.

*Of the Knees presenting; the
Child on its Back.*

FIRST beware of Twins, and satisfy yourself in the manner before-mentioned.

Then take the Opportunity of the Womb's Mouth being properly relaxed and open'd; to which you may contribute by the Application of the softening Liniment, or other good softening Ointments or Oiles; and with the Help of your Hand and Fingers, well anointed, you may irritate the Womb so as to quicken the natural Pains, if necessary, as has been mentioned.

Do not push up the Knees, but draw them down till the Feet fall out; which will soon discover to you, by the pointing of the Toes and Knees, that the Child lies wrong: You must turn it round on its Face, as has been said, and then deliver it, as in other Footling Cases; taking particular Care of the Arms that turned upwards, in placing the Face right, as observed before.

CHAP. XV.

Of one Foot presenting.

HERE you have nothing to do but to search for the other Foot, and bring it down, and deliver as already directed, according as you find it situate, either on its Back, Belly, or Side.

If the absent Foot lies far out of your Reach, and you cannot command it so as to bring it down without much Violence, you are to search it out, and consider in what Posture the Thigh and Leg lie: And if you find the Child's Thigh and Leg folded on its own Belly (the Child being of a mo-

derate Size), you may deliver it as it lies: But if the Thigh be extended, and bent rather back than forwards towards its Belly; you must use your utmost Endeavours to bring down the Foot to the other: Or if you cannot effect this without too much Violence, you must require a Man Midwife to assist you; for you must never venture to deliver one Foot without the other, unless you are certain, that the absent Leg and Thigh lie folded on the Belly.

Be very careful, that you do not bring down the Foot of another Child; to prevent which you need only guide your Hand to the Bearing, as already directed; for you must always beware of Twins, in all Cases where
Foot

Foot or Feet, Hand or Hands,
present.

CHAP. XVI.

Of one Knee presenting.

IN this Case you may get the other Knee, if it lies handy to you; or if it lies at a Distance, you may either bring both the Knees, or both the Feet, together, down to the Passage as may be most convenient; regarding the Ease and Safety of both the Mother and Child; and then perform the Delivery according to the Situation of the Child, on his Back, or Belly; not forgetting to make the Turn, if it be necessary, to lay

lay the Face right ; and still beware of Twins, in searching for the distant Knee.

CHAP. XVII.

Of the Breech presenting, the Child being small.

WHEN the Breech presents, and the Child is but of a small Size, and the Basen is of a laudable Bigness, you need not push it up in order to come at the Feet, especially if it has any ways enter'd the Basen ; but let it remain as it is ; and by the Woman's natural Pains, assisted with good Ointments to soften and relax the Parts, with a Glass of good Cordial,

Cordial, or a Mess of comfortable Caudle, or Broth, if necessary, you will seldom fail of a good, safe, and easy Delivery. But if any little Difficulty should arise, you may apply the Ointment in a more plentiful manner; and you may also quicken the Pains, by gently sliding your Fingers, well anointed, up into the Neck of the Womb, in order to irritate it to the stronger Contractions. Withdraw your Hand as you find the Pains arise, and repeat it now-and-then, as the fresh Pains come on, always conducting your Hand and Fingers to that Part of the Womb which lies next to the Rump and Huckle-bone; which last you may bend a little backwards.

You

You may also promote the Delivery, in this Case, by introducing a fore Finger crooked, or a small blunt Steel Hook (which is the only Instrument a Woman should ever presume to use); and fixing it in one, or both the Child's Groins, occasionally.

If the Woman be weak, give her good comforting Diet, and Cordial Drinks.

If the Child's Face be wrong turned, remember to turn it right, as soon as you have got out the Feet.

C H A P. XVIII.

Of Twins.

WHEN a Woman bears Twins (or more Children), you are to proceed to the Delivery of the first Child in the same manner, and observe the same Rules, as you would do in any single Birth; and when the Bag is broken open, and the Waters discharged, examine the Part presenting; and when you have discover'd what Part it is that presents, you must assist her according to the Rules laid down in the Chapter relating to that particular Posture.

If

If the first Child should present in a natural Posture, and no great Difficulty arises so as to occasion its being turned, you will scarce be able to discover with any Certainty the Existence of any other Child in the Womb, till after the Birth of the first : But if the Feet, Hands, or any other Part, besides the Head of the first, presents, you will have a Chance of discovering that there are Twins, especially if you should happen to meet with two Hands or Feet belonging to different Bodies. But this Discovery will not be very material, with the proviso that you are careful when you do meet with two Hands, or Feet, or Knees, to examine whether they belong to the same, or two separate Bodies, pursuant

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suant to the Caution before given in some of the preceding Chapters.

As soon as the first Child is delivered, unless the other immediately presents, you must introduce your Hand into the Body of the Womb, to search after the other Child, or Children: And whether the second Child immediately presents, or not, unless the Water-bag immediately breaks, and the Child falls directly into your Hands, you are, without waiting a Minute for Pains, to break open the Bag directly with your Fingers, and seek for the Feet, before you withdraw your Hand; so that the Child and Waters may pass forth together; and thus finish the Delivery as in other Footling Cases. If

If there be any more Children, proceed in the like manner to the Delivery of them all : For if you wait for the necessary Pains, you will commonly be disappointed ; and, instead of effectual Labour-pains, you will often be surpris'd with an invincible Contraction of the Womb. And the Woman's Spirits being spent, she will faint, and probably be seiz'd with Convulsions, or other bad Symptoms ; and a Flooding from the Separation of the first Child's Womb-cake may reasonably be expected ; for the Pains sufficient for the Expulsion of the second Child will be also sufficient to effect the Separation of the Womb-cake belonging to the first, especially if its Adhesion or Fastening to the Womb

Womb should be but flight, as it often is.

You must not fetch one of the After-burdens till all the Children are deliver'd ; for if you do, you will give rise to a violent Flooding, and take away the Life of the Woman, and probably of all the Children, except the first. Besides, the Womb-cakes of two or more Children are commonly united and grown firmly together, from their close and long Contact, or lying together, and rubbing against each other, in the Womb.

And now, if you reflect properly and coolly, you will plainly perceive the potent Reason, and even the Necessity of introducing your Hand into the Body of the Womb, in order to deliver the

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After-

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After-burden upon all Occasions, as well in single as double Births; for it is but very seldom that you can be certain whether there are Twins, or not, till after the Birth of the first Child; and sometimes the second will not present itself at all.

If you depend upon the Hardness or Bulk of the Belly for a Token of another Child, you are liable to be deceived by Water, Wind, Fat, Moles, and other Excrescences; inflammatory Swellings, Impostumes, &c.—And a fat or very full and bulky Body may conceal a second Child from all outward Views, and prevent the Discovery of it, either by your Sight, or Touch. Thus you see you are either way liable to be deceived;

deceived ; therefore trust to nothing but your own Hand.

C H A P. XIX.

Of a dead Child.

A Child that dies in the Womb, is to be delivered in the same Manner as if it was alive ; and the same Rules are to be observed, and the same Methods practised, in order to promote the Delivery, according to the different Posture in which it presents : And the Difficulty attending the Birth is not much greater, if any, than that which usually occurs in the Delivery of a living Child in the

same Posture ; only the Woman is more liable to sick Fits, and should be supported with a comforting Cordial ; such as you will find prescribed in the Catalogue of Medicines, at the End of this Book ; some mull'd Wine, or the like.

It is observ'd, that a living Child does not promote its own Birth by any Effort, or voluntary Motion that it makes, much more than a dead one ; and doubtless this Observation is right, altho' it may be allowed, that the springing Motions of a living Child may, in some measure, irritate the Womb and its neighbouring Parts to Contractions : But these Irritations are but slight, and commonly much slighter in the Hour of Labour than for some Time before, by
reason

reason of the Woman's Pains at this Time contracting the Womb so closely about the Child, and with so much Force as in a great measure to suppress its usual Motions. But the chief Reason why a dead Child is more slow in Delivery than a living one, is because the dead Child, as well as the Bag and Waters in which it floats and is contained, shrinks and grows less, both in Bulk and Weight, whilst the living one is constantly increasing in both; and consequently the Irritation upon the Neck and Mouth of the Womb cannot be so great from the dead Child as from the living one, for want of the same Bulk and Weight bearing down upon these Parts, and stretching them open.

enough

I 3

Indeed

Indeed a Child that has been long dead, will sometimes swell and increase in Bulk, and also putrify, from whence many troublesome and dangerous Symptoms will arise; but then this Circumstance does not happen without much exhausting the Woman's Strength, and bringing bad Symptoms on her, like a Torrent.

Neither does the Weight of a dead Child, when it putrifies and swells, increase in proportion to its Bulk.

One Advantage you have in the Delivery of a dead Child, which is, if the Head happens to be too large to enter the Basin, you may freely open the Skull, and evacuate the Brain, in order to reduce the Head to the Dimensions

menfions that are requisite to make it pafs the Bafon. But this Operation fhould be performed by a Man Midwife, to whom you fhould always recommend it, and all other doubtful and dangerous Operations.

In order to diftinguifh a dead Child from a living one, fearch for the Navel-string ; and if there be no Pulse in it, you may depend upon the Infant's being dead ; but if there be a Pulse in the Navel-string, you may be fure that the Child is alive.

When the Child is dead, the Woman has fick Fits, and looks pale and wan, and feels cold in her Belly, and has a dead lumpifh Weight there ; and if the Child has been long dead, her Breafte

I 4 fink,

sink, and grow flabby : The Motion of the Child is no more felt ; an offensive Smell arises, and, if the Waters are gone off, a black and stinking Excrement (called *Meconium*) is discharged through the Passage ; and if the Child has been long dead, its outer Skin easily peels off with the Touch of your Finger.

If you cannot reach the Navel-string, you may feel for the Pulse in the Child's Wrist, Temple, or Inside of its Instep, if you can come at them.

Whenever by the Signs above-mentioned you are well certified of the Child's being positively dead, and any Difficulty arises, so as greatly to obstruct its Birth ; you must first of all find out, and maturely

turely consider the Nature of the
Obstacle or Hindrance ; and also
the Posture in which the Child
presents; and then proceed to your
Office accordingly, taking the fol-
lowing Rules for your Guide ;
namely,

If the Child presents right, and
you find its Head too large to
enter the Bason, you should com-
mit it to the Care of a Man Mid-
wife, that he may lessen the Head
by opening the Mould, and taking
out the Brain ; and thus reduce
it to the necessary Dimensions, to
make it pass the Bason.

If the Feet present, and the
Pains are wanting, or defective,
deliver the Child in that Position,
with your Hands, and a Napkin,
that you may keep the firmer hold ;
only

only remember to make the proper Turn to lay the Belly and Face right, if you find it necessary; and always take a reasonable Time to relax and dilate or open the Mouth of the Womb, by the Application of softening Ointments, and by gently distending your Fingers, well anointed, in the Passage, &c. before you attempt the Delivery, in this or any other kind of Birth.

If it be a Cross-birth, the Back, Belly, Side, or Arm, &c. presenting; search for the Feet, and deliver, as is in other Chapters directed.

If the Breech presents, and the Child be small, in proportion to the Basen, and the necessary Pains are wanting, and cannot
be

be promoted by gentle Methods, a mild Vomit may be given ; or you may draw the Child away as it lies, with the blunt Hooks, or your Fingers in its Groin, as has been before mentioned.

If the Head presents right, is of a moderate Size, and should be enter'd the Bason ; or you are, by your Search, well assured of its being small enough to pass the Bason, but the Woman's Pains are insufficient ; and if the ordinary Methods before-mentioned in case of such slack Pains, do not prevail, so as to effect the Delivery in a reasonable Space of Time ; a proper vomiting Medicine should be ordered : And this is the principal Case wherein a Vomit is likely to afford the greatest Benefit.

If

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If the Head be firmly lock'd in the Basin, you must require some able Practitioner to assist you with his Forceps, or as he shall judge most convenient.

If you discover the Narrowness or Distortion of the Basin to be the Cause of your Hindrance, you must immediately recommend your Patient to the Care of a very skilful Man; and be sure to conceal, as much as may be, the Nature of the Case from the Woman, for Reasons already mention'd: For to keep the Woman's Mind easy and free from the Apprehensions of great and imminent Dangers, is a Matter of great Concern.

BRIEF

B R I E F

INSTRUCTIONS

IN

M I D W I F R Y.

SECTION III.

I N T R O D U C T I O N.

ACCORDING to my Proposal, this Third Section will be filled up with a Representation of a Variety of Cases of a most difficult and dangerous Nature; and I shall endeavour to lay down the safest and most effectual Methods of

of assisting Women labouring under those dangerous Circumstances, in the plainest and shortest Manner that I am able.

It is unnecessary, and it would indeed be quite useless, in this Section to make a Repetition of every Step that is necessary to be taken in Cross-births, and other wrong Situations and Difficulties, in order to turn a Child, or reduce it to a right Posture, when its Position is wrong; because the Methods proper and requisite to be practised upon those Occasions, are already described and set forth at large in the foregoing Chapters: Therefore I shall not trouble you with such an useless Repetition, which would only increase your Trouble in Reading, and heap the greater

greater Load upon your Memory, and even confuse your Ideas, rather than assist them; but shall only barely mention each Case in its respective and proper Chapter, with what is requisite for you to perform, when that particular Case occurs to you, in order to effect a safe Delivery of both the Mother and Child, without precisely describing the Manner of your performing it; which may very well be omitted here, considering it is done already in the foregoing Chapters, and as this Omission will create to you the less Trouble.

CHAP. I.

Of the Head being of a natural Size, and presenting right, but the Belly dropfical, and greatly fwoln.

THIS is a natural Labour, with regard to the Posture of the Child ; but yet when the Head and Breast is expelled, you cannot deliver the Body without its being open'd: Therefore as soon as you discover the Misfortune, send for a Man to open the Belly, and finish the Delivery.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

*Of the Head right, but too large
to enter the Bason.*

AS soon as you are convinced
of this Misfortune; if the
Head be vastly big, and you can-
not so much as move it from its
Place without Violence, you should
send for a skilful Man, that he
may either open the Head, and
give Vent to the Brain, or turn
the Child, and deliver it footling,
as he judges most proper.

Indeed I cannot help thinking,
upon this Occasion, that the Head
should not be open'd so often as
it is: For unless you are sure the

K

Child

Child be dead, or its Head be excessively large, even so as to be immoveable, or the Bason exceeding narrow, I can see no Harm in turning the Child to bring it footling, if it can be done without offering great Violence to the Woman; as it commonly may, (barring bad Symptoms, great Negligence, and long Delays) by reasonable Patience, and prudent Management; tho' I am not at all insensible of the common Objection of leaving the Head behind; which must greatly augment the Difficulty. This I allow: But yet, it is well known, that a Head too large to pass the Bason, by the Force of the Woman's Pains, in its natural Position, may often be made to pass it,

it, by virtue of turning the Child, and delivering the Feet first, by the prudent Management and Dexterity of the skilful Practitioner: Besides, the Head of an Infant is very tender, and, as it were, malleable or ductile, yielding, and capable of being moulded into many Shapes; and the Bones themselves are flexible, and will admit of being bent a great deal, without receiving any Injury; and even the Brain will admit of a strong Compression, or Bruise, and yet its young and vigorous Fibres will recover their Spring, and outgrow the Injury; to which the Surgeon's Art may contribute much, occasionally. I could say more upon this Subject, but have not Room for it in this Place.

At last, if the Head and Body must part, the Child can but die for it, after having fair Play, and a good Chance for its Life.

Nor can I conceive any invincible Difficulty in bringing away the Head, if it should happen to be left behind; nor any great Danger to the Woman, from the Operation, if she be deliver'd in a proper Time, by a skilful and dextrous Man.

Indeed if she should be seized in this Case of the large Head with a violent Flooding, or Convulsions, or other dangerous Symptoms, it may not be safe to wait the turning of the Child, and to run the Risque of leaving the Head behind at the last. But, barring bad Symptoms upon the Woman,
this

this Expedient may generally be safely tried to save the Child, if alive.

CHAP. III.

Of the Breech presenting, the Child being large.

YOU must push up the Breech till you can come at the Feet ; and then bring them down, and deliver, observing the Posture of the Child, and making the proper Turn to lay the Face right, if necessary.

CHAP. IV.

Of the Belly presenting.

SLIDE your Fingers along the Belly, Thighs, and Legs, to the Feet ; draw them down ; see that the Child's Body be laid right, and deliver.

Push up the Breast and Head before you seek the Feet, if you find it necessary.

CHAP. V.

Of the Breast presenting.

PUSH up the Breast softly towards the Bottom of the Womb, but use no Violence: Then let the Body, Thighs, and Legs guide you to the Feet: Bring them down; and thus deliver.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Side presenting.

PUSH off the Side gently from the Mouth of the Womb; and as you move it, endeavour to incline

the Child's Belly, rather than its Back, towards the Back of the Mother; and while you push it off, in order to gain Room for your Hand to pass to the Feet, observe to place your Hand high up towards the Side of the Breast or Arm-pit, and not towards the Hip. As soon as you have made Room sufficient, slide your Hand down the Side, Thigh, and Leg, to the Foot, and seek the other Foot also, being guided to it by the opposite Thigh and Leg. Thus having got both the Feet, bring them down together, and deliver.

One thing more is to be observed; namely, In all turning Cases where you push up the Body and Head, and fetch down the
3 Feet,

Feet, except it be when the back Parts present, always pull the Child's Feet towards its own Belly, or at least conduct its Knees that way ; for otherwise you may break its Back, or Thighs.

C H A P. VII.

Of the Back presenting.

SLIDE your Hand as high as you can, without Violence, up between the Child's Shoulders, towards its Poll, even to the back Part of its Head, if you can reach it : Thus push the Head and Body up gently towards the Bottom of the Womb, inclining its Belly and Face, as much as you can, towards

wards its Mother's Back. Then slide your Hand again down the Body, Thighs, and Legs, till you come to the Feet: Lay hold of them, bring them down, and deliver; still observing in this and all other footling Births, to lay the Child in its proper Position, with its Belly and Face turn'd towards the Mother's Back, before you finish the Delivery, or let the Body advance too far in the Passage. And in case the Child has been turn'd about to bring it to its proper Position; bring down, if possible, without Violence, at least that Arm that moved uppermost towards the Mother's Belly, while the Turn was making.

CHAP. VIII.

Of the Shoulder presenting.

IN this Case, if the Shoulder points luckily, the Body lying almost on a Square, with the Belly toward: the Mother's Back; you will have a Chance of reducing it to its natural Posture, by pushing moderately with your Hand against the Child's Shoulder, and elevating the Woman's Hips, &c.

But if you cannot easily compass it; or if the Child's Belly lies not right; you must slide your Hand down along the Child's Body, Thighs, and Legs, to the Feet; which you must bring down, and deliver accordingly.

CHAP.

C H A P. IX.

Of the Neck presenting.

IF you can discover by your Hand, that the Body lies pretty right, and on the Square, with the Belly and Face right turn'd to the Mother's Back, you may try what you can do towards reducing the Child to its natural Posture, by pushing back its Neck and Shoulders, and elevating the Woman's Hips, &c. as in the preceding Case: But if you discover the Body to be wrong turned, with the Child's Face towards its Mother's Belly or Flank, or any great Difficulty occurs, search after the Feet,
and

and deliver by them, according to your Art.

C H A P. X.

Of an Ear presenting.

YOU may push back as in the preceding Cases, if you can readily accomplish it, and you find the Body be right: But if you discover the Body to be wrong turned, or if any great and insuperable Difficulty arises, you must have recourse to the Delivery by the Feet.

C H A P.

CHAP. XI.

*Of the Head presenting right, but
the Face wrong turned, to the
Mother's Belly.*

YOUR best way will be, directly to seek the Feet (except the Child be very small), and bring them down; and deliver: But if you cannot soon effect this Work, and without much Violence, send for a Man Practitioner to assist you with his Forceps, or some other Instrument; or by what Method he may judge proper.

CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

Of a Child presenting one Arm in the Passage.

YOU may reduce the Arm, if you can do it without Violence; if not, pass by it, and guide your Hand along the Body, &c. to the Feet; and as you draw them down, the Arm will draw in, and the Body and Head will of course turn off towards the Bottom of the Womb. Thus you will complete the Delivery by the Feet; and the less Delay you make, the better.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII.

*Of both Hands in the Passage;
the Head at a Distance.*

YOU must introduce your Hand; push up the Breast; seek the Feet; bring them down; and deliver, according to your Art.

CHAP. XIV.

*Of a Child presenting wrong, the
Membranes not broken, either
with or without a Flooding.*

IF you can discover through the Membranes, that it is a Cross-birth (as you may sometimes do),
you

you must break open the Bag with your Fingers, continuing your Arm in the Passage, while you directly seek for the Feet; and bring them down, and deliver the Child, with the flowing Waters.

This you must do, whether there be any Flooding, or no; only if there is a Flooding, you should be the more expeditious. But if there is no Flooding, you should not break open the Bag, before the Mouth of the Womb be well relaxed, unless bad Symptoms come on.

CHAP. XV.

*Of a Child drawn away wrong by
an unskilful Midwife; the Chin
sticking against the Share-bone.*

THIS is a difficult Case, and
in it you will seldom be able
to do any effectual Service. I men-
tion the Misfortune, rather to put
you in Mind of avoiding the like
in your Practice, than with any
great View of instructing you how
to retrieve it, or relieve the Wo-
man and Child, after it has hap-
pened; for it is not, properly, a
Woman's Work (for whose Service
this little Book is chiefly design'd).
Therefore if ever you happen to
meet

meet with such a Case, you should send for a Man Practitioner, to assist you with his Forceps, or Crotchets, or by the Use of what other Instruments or Methods he thinks convenient.

Nevertheless, in the mean time, if you have any room to work in, and you perceive the Head to be of a moderate Size, you may endeavour to fix a Finger in the Child's Mouth, and bend the Chin with considerable Force down towards its Breast; at the same time endeavouring to turn the Neck a Quarter round, by grasping it with your other Fingers and Thumb; and thus extract the Head: Or if you can, by degrees (still keeping your Finger in the Child's Mouth), turn the Neck

L 2 half

half round, it will be better yet; for then you will have it quite right.

But you will seldom find room enough to work in, so as to perform the Delivery in this manner.

CHAP. XVI.

Of a violent Flooding.

WHenever this Misfortune happens, you must, at all Events, deliver the Woman directly, and never wait in this Case for any Pains at all; but immediately seek for the Feet, and by them extract the Child according to Art; and then, with the utmost Expedition, deliver the After-burden, by introducing

roducing your Hand into the Womb, and separating the Womb-cake with your Fingers, if it be not totally separated before. If the Womb-cake should happen to be totally separated, and lies in your Way, you may in this Case extract it, before you deliver the Child.

In this Case of a violent Flooding, even if the Head presents in the most natural Posture; if it does not drop directly into your Hand, you must not wait a Minute for Pains, but push it away, and fetch the Feet; yet in your Hurry never forgetting to see the Belly and Face laid right, before you extract the Body too far.

Before you deliver the After-burden, always remember to ex-

L 3 amine,

amine, whether there be any other Child in the Womb; and if any Clods of Blood remain after the Delivery, be sure you fetch them all clean away with your Hand.

If the Water-bag is not broken when you go to assist a Woman in a Flooding, so much the better; and then you must immediately break it with your Arm in the Passage, to keep up the Waters, which will be useful to you in seizing the Feet, in turning the Child, and promoting the Delivery of its Body and Head.

If in a Flooding the Child's Head should be large, and stuck in the Bason, a Man Practitioner must deliver it with his Forceps, as soon as possible.

If

If the Head be too large to enter the Bafon ; in this Cafe of a Flooding he muft immediately open it with the proper Inftrument, and evacuate the Brain ; which is the only Cafe wherein the Child's Head fhould ever be opened, without the greateft Deliberation.

If the Flooding fhould continue in a very confiderable Degree, after you have perform'd a complete Delivery, you may bind the Legs and Arms with a pretty tight Ligature ; direct the Woman to be laid in an eafy Pofition, with her Head and Shoulders declining, and her Hips elevated : Then recommend her to the Care of a Phyfician.

CHAP. XVII.

Of a Flooding with Twins.

UNDER this Misfortune you must directly seek for the Feet of each Child in its turn ; and deliver the Children, before you attempt to fetch either of the After-burdens.

Take care you lay hold of the Child's two proper Feet, and not of one Foot belonging to each Child.

If the Water-bags are not broken, open them one at a time, as you fetch the Children ; and be careful each time, in keeping up the
Wate

Water with your Arm in the Passage, as it will be useful to you on the Occasions before-mention'd.

When you have deliver'd the Children, fetch away the After-burdens : The Navel-strings will guide you to the Womb-cakes ; which carefully separate with your Fingers : But you will generally find them both united together at their Edges ; so that you will have but one Trouble with them.

Be very expeditious in performing your Office ; for the Flooding cannot cease till you have completed the Delivery, both of the Children and After-burdens.

Be careful in fetching away all Clods of Blood, &c. Leave not so much as a Fragment of the Membranes

branes or Bags behind, in this, nor in any other Delivery.

Keep the Woman very quiet and temperate, and recommend her to the Care of a Physician, if she has lost much Blood.

In this Place I shall take an Opportunity of mentioning two very particular Cases, which have undoubtedly happened; as is plain from the sudden Deaths of some Women in Labour; and others, immediately after their Delivery; tho', I thank God, neither of these Accidents ever occur'd to me, during my Practice.

The first of these is, where Women in good Health have, without being delivered, died suddenly, in the midst of an acute Labour-Pain.

And

And this Case I take to be often truly apoplectic, and proceeding from an Extravafation of Blood in the small capillary Veffels of the Brain, caufed by very violent Contractions of the Heart and Arteries, arifing from the exceffive Efforts and Strivings of the Woman, in order to the Expulfion of the Child ; for in fuch Cafes the Veffels contained in the Vifcera within the Abdomen and Bafon being for the moft part greatly overloaded with a thick fizy Blood, and their Cavities or Capacities all over the Abdomen and Bafon much leffened by the Weight and Preffure of the *Fœtus*, Waters, and Womb-cake, the Blood muft of confequence be driven with more Rapidity, and in far greater Quantity,

tity, into the Brain, than at any other Time; and in such a Quantity as to cause a Rupture and Extravasation, which must terminate in Death, unless prevented by timely and proper Evacuations, particularly Bleeding.

The second Case is, where Women have been safely and completely delivered in every respect, and no Flooding nor other visible Accident has befallen them, nor even one bad Symptom appeared; yet they have suddenly fallen into such an *Animæ Deliquium* or Sinking of the Spirits, that they have gone off in a fainting Fit, if some skilful Person has not been present, or near at hand, in order to give such Advice and Directions as are necessary upon such an emergent Occasion.

This

sure G U I D E. 157

This Accident, doubtless, must proceed from a Cause exactly the Reverse to the former; from a great and sudden Flow of the Blood into the inferior Blood-vessels, whose Diameters or Capacities are immediately and greatly enlarged upon the Removal of the Infant, Waters, and After-burden, by which they were before compress'd: And upon this great and sudden Flow of Blood downwards, the Brain, from whence proceed the animal Spirits, is deprived of its usual Supply; and even the Heart itself is not supplied, at this Juncture, with a sufficient Quantity of Blood and Spirits to carry on the Circulation, without which Death must speedily ensue.

To

To prevent this fatal Accident, the best Method I can direct, is, to lay the Body in an horizontal Posture, and immediately to compress the whole Abdomen, by the Application of a very strict Bandage, over a thick Compress made of soft Napkins, a Table-cloth, or the like : And while this is doing, the Temples and Nostrils may be rubbed with Hartshorn, *Sal volatile*, or some sort of fetid Drops.

All spiritous Cordials should be carefully avoided ; for these only serve to set the Blood the more afloat ; but about a Tea Spoonful of Tincture of Castor, or other fetid Drops, may be given, well diluted.

She should be laid easy, kept very quiet, and the most profound
Silence

Silence injoin'd to the Nurse, and
all about her.

C H A P. XVIII.

*Of Twins, one Foot or Hand of
each presenting in the Passage.*

YOU must always be upon
your Guard, when Feet or
Hands present, to discover, by the
Means which I have before men-
tioned, whether they belong to
one, or two Children. And when
you have discover'd two Feet that
belong to two separate Children,
you must cast off the one, and
find the Fellow to the other, by
the Rules already often mention'd;
and

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and also deliver according to the before-mentioned Rules of Delivery.

If the Hands of two different Children present you must cast them both off, and seek the Feet of one Child first, and deliver; and so of the other, in its turn, according to the Rules already given; always, in case of Twins, or Triplets, &c. reserving the After-burdens till the last; otherwise you will have a Flooding: Besides, the Womb-cakes usually grow together, as I have said.

Note, In all these foregoing Cases (except Floodings), though you should not be dilatory, yet you must never be over-hasty; but if the Mouth of the Womb be not sufficiently

sufficiently open'd, always wait a reasonable Time for the opening of it. In the mean while be diligent in your Application of good softening Ointments, to assist its Relaxation; but apply them in the most gentle manner.

But when Floodings, Convulsions, or other deadly Symptoms come on, there is no Time to be lost: And, indeed, in these dangerous Cases you will generally find the Parts sufficiently relaxed; which is a very great Benefit in Nature.

CHAP. XIX.

Of a Miscarriage, with an Embryo, or Fœtus.

Miscarriages will happen at any Time of a Woman's Pregnancy, or Child-bearing; from Falls, Bruises, Frights, Surfeits, &c. or from her natural Constitution being either too weak, moist, and slippery; or too dry and rigid.

Whenever she is apprehensive of a Miscarriage, from any internal Cause, or Fault in her Constitution, she should apply to a Physician for proper Advice; or if from a Bruise or any external Injury, she should apply to a Surgeon for his Assistance; for all

Women should go to their full Time, if possible, as there is much less Danger in a ripe Delivery, than in a Miscarriage, besides the great and natural Satisfaction resulting from the former.

But if by Neglect or Violence of the Injury or Distemper a Miscarriage is become unavoidable, you must help the Woman with proper nourishing and strengthening Drinks and Cordials, in order to strengthen her to the Expulsion of her Burden.

Hysteric Water, with Syrup of Clove-gilly-flowers, is very good upon this occasion; or a little *Holland* Geneva, in some mild Ale, Mace, Cinnamon, and Nutmeg, if there be no great Flooding; but if there is any Flooding, you must

shun spirituous Liquors ; and you may assist her with your Fingers, if you can : You may also give her a sharp Glyster ; such as is prescribed at the End of this Book, or the like ; which you may procure from any Apothecary's Shop.

But if all your Endeavours prove fruitless, and more especially if a great Flooding comes on, you must require a skilful Man Practitioner to assist you.

CHAP. XX.

Of a Bason excessively small.

THIS is a lamentable Circumstance, which has befallen some few unfortunate married Women : And tho' it is very rare that such Instances have been known ; yet as some such Women have bred Children, and without Doubt it may be the Misfortune of others ; it is therefore proper that you should be apprised of the Case.

In some there has been scarce room for the Fingers to pass flat-ways between the Bones of the Bason.

M 3

When

When this unfortunate Ill Formation of the Bason happens, there is no saving the Child, but by opening the Mother's Body; which, I think, is too cruel an Operation for Christian Practice (unless there is no Possibility of extracting the Child by any other Means, while the Woman remains alive; or it be done when she is just expired). Therefore if it should ever occur to you in your Practice, you can only send for some very able Man Practitioner, to use his Endeavours to save the Mother, by the Destruction of the Child.

It has been imagined by some, that the Share-bone opens, at the time of a Woman's Labour, at the Joint, or rather the gristly Seam which is in the fore and
middle

middle Part of it, in order to make Room for the Egress of the Child : But this Opinion is wrong, and grounded upon a Mistake ; this Bone having been found loose or open at the said Joint, in some Women who have died in Labour, or Childbed : But when it has been so found, it must have been torn asunder by great Violence ; which Violence must be sufficient to cause the Death of most Women, from the Pain, Inflammation, Swelling, &c. from thence proceeding, notwithstanding some few, of extraordinary Constitutions, may have recovered after such a terrible Misfortune.

CHAP. XXI.

Of Moles, or false Conceptions.

I Shall say but little here of these imperfect and inanimate Bodies, or Lumps; and only observe, that they are to be distinguish'd from true Conceptions, chiefly by their Hardness, dead Weight, and Lack of voluntary Motion [only involuntarily rolling a little about, as the Body turns, more or less, according to the Thickness and Laxity of their Bases, or Roots]; and are sometimes attended with violent Pains, and generally terminate in a Miscarriage, about the second or third Month; tho' they are sometimes carried longer: But
the

the longer they take their Increase, the greater is the Danger. They commonly go off with a Flooding, sometimes violent.

If you cannot readily come at them with your Fingers, you may give a sharp Glister to help them off: You may also give some comfortable warm Drinks, Broths, and Caudles, to strengthen the Parts for the Expulsion of this superfluous Mass. Give also a little hysseric Water, with some Syrup of Clove Gilly-flowers; to which you may add a few Drops of chymical Oil of Juniper, from fifteen, to twenty, or thirty.

If these fail you, send for a Man Practitioner to assist you, especially if a violent Flooding comes on, or any other dangerous Symptoms.

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A P P E N D I X.

WHEN a Woman is deliver'd, and put to Bed, give her 30 or 40 Grains of that good and useful old Medicine *Sperma Ceti*, mix'd with some powder'd Sugar, and grated Nutmeg.

If she has been much fatigued, after a little Repose in her Bed, refresh her with a small Dish of good Broth of Mutton, Chick, or the like; with a Spoonful or two of *Seville* Orange Juice in it.

Or,

Or, instead of Broth, she may take a little white Caudle, made by adding a Spoonful or two of good White-wine, to half a Pint of the common Gruel, with Mace and Sugar in it.

If she has been much bruised, or otherwise hurt, you must not neglect it, but in good Time recommend her to the Care of a Man Practitioner in Midwifry, or some able Surgeon, that he may use proper Fomentations, and make other suitable Applications to the injured Parts, before it be too late to prevent an Impostume, a Mortification, or other bad Consequences.

If a Fever should ensue, or any other great Disorder, recommend her before it be too late, to the Care of a Physician.

Of

Of MEDICINES.

THE following Compositions of internal Medicines, and external Applications, will be found useful in the Disorders and Hurts for which they are directed to be taken, or applied.

Yet you should never rely much on your own Judgment, upon such Occasions; but when-ever the Distemper begins to grow violent, or the Hurt is great, desire the Help of a Physician, or Surgeon: For could I give you the best and most effectual Prescriptions

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scriptions in the World, upon all Occasions, proper for every Distemper or Hurt to which Women are liable, it would be impossible for you to know how to apply them properly, unless you were first educated a Physician, or Surgeon.

Therefore, keep strictly within the Bounds of your own Province, acting diligently; and in it you may find Work enough to employ you,

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THE
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T H E
CATALOGUE, &c.

A Julep for the Heartburn.

TAKE simple Alexiterial and Mint-water, of each six Ounces.

Simple Cinnamon Water, 3 Ounces.

Compound Spirit of Lavender, one Drachm.

Loaf Sugar, half an Ounce.

Crabs Eyes, and Pearls, finely prepared, of each three Drachms.

Mix these for a Julep.

N

When

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When a breeding Woman is much troubled with the Heartburn, give her four or five large Spoonfuls of this Julep, once in three, four, six, or eight Hours; according to the Violence of the Disorder.

An aperient Electary to open the Body, when too costive.

TAKE Diacassia, with Manna, and lenitive Electary, of each one Ounce.

Cream of Tartar finely powder'd, a Quarter of an Ounce.

Mix these into an Electary, with Syrup of Damask Roses.

The Quantity of a Nutmeg or more of this Electary, may be taken going to-bed, as Occasion may require. The Dose may be increased to any Quantity, at Discretion, as it may be found necessary to relieve the Complaint; stopping, after one loose Stool is obtained.

This

of MEDICINES. 179

This Electary may be wash'd down with a Draught of common Whey, or Mallow Tea, sweeten'd with Lisbon Sugar.

A gentle Dose of purging Physic.

TAKE of Elixir Salutis, one Ounce.
Tincture of Rhubarb, half an Ounce.

Compound Spirit of Lavender, thirty Drops.

Mix for a Purge.

This may be taken in case of Gripings in the Belly, or great Sickness in the Stomach; or after a Surfeit, upon eating or drinking any thing that disagrees, or when the Legs are much swoln; drinking Mutton or Chicken Broth in the Operation. The Dose may be increased, or diminish'd, occasionally.

But in case of swelled Legs, with Costiveness, a few Doses of the foregoing aperient Electary may be taken, before you give this Physic.

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A comforting Cordial.

TAKE of good Mountain, or Lisbon Wine, one Pint.

Aromatic Species, a Quarter of an Ounce.

Juice of Kermes Berries, one Ounce.

Loaf Sugar, one Ounce.

Mix for a Cordial.

Three, four, or five Spoonfuls of this comforting Cordial may be given in case of any great Sickness, or Faintness: And in Constitutions that are naturally cold and weak, a Dose of it may be taken twice or thrice a Day, till a Bottle or two of it be exhausted: Or more of it may be taken, if it agrees with the Stomach, and does not raise too intense a Heat in the Body. After taking a Bottle or two, she may rest from it a while, and take it again.

A Dose of this Cordial may also do much Service in cold, weak, and windy Stomachs,

Stomachs, and bad Digestions, taken an Hour or two before Dinner, and an Hour or two after.

A Carminative Glyster.

TAKE Bay and Juniper Berries, of each half an Ounce.

Aniseeds, Caraway Seeds, and Coriander Seeds, of each a Quarter of an Ounce.

Chamomile Flowers, half an Ounce.

Lavender Flowers, a Quarter of an Ounce.

Boil these in a Pint and half of Spring-water, till it be half consumed; strain it off, and add to it, An Ounce or two of Oil of bitter Almonds; a Spoonful of French Brandy; and a Quarter of an Ounce of Venice Treacle.

Give this Glyster, pretty warm, in case of Wind or Gripes in the Belly; and in false Pains.

An Emollient Glyster.

TAKE of Marshmallow Leaves,
half an Ounce.

Flax Seeds, a Quarter of an Ounce.

Chamomile Flowers, half an Ounce.

Aniseeds, half an Ounce.

Boil these in a Pint and half of Spring-water, till it be half consumed; strain it off, and add to it fresh Butter, and Oil of sweet Almonds, of each an Ounce or two; and half an Ounce, or an Ounce, of Lenitive Electuary.

Give this blood-warm, in order to bring away hard Excrement, after a long-continued Costiveness. It may be repeated occasionally.

Where this Glyster cannot be procured, you may, instead of it, give the like Quantity of Veal-broth, or strong Barley-water, or common Whey, with some common Mallow Leaves boil'd in it; and a good Quantity of fresh Butter added to it: You may also add a little Manna, or coarse Sugar, if necessary.

A sharp Glyster.

LET it be the same Composition as the emollient Glyster, with the following Addition to it; namely, Tincture of Hiera Picra, and Syrup of Buckthorn Berries, of each one Ounce; and to make it yet sharper, half an Ounce, or an Ounce of Glauber's or Epsom Salt, may be added to it; or, in lack of these, common Salt.

These Additions may be varied to more, or less, according to the Strength of the Patient, and Exigency of the Case.

This Glyster is to be given in Cases of great Difficulty, to promote the Expulsion of an Embryo, or Fœtus, in a Miscarriage; or in order to discharge a Mole, or false Conception: And also to promote the Expulsion of a Child, in case of a ripe, but slow and difficult Birth, when the Waters are gone off, and the Child presents in a right Po-

An Emollient Glyster.

TAKE of Marshmallow Leaves,
half an Ounce.

Flax Seeds, a Quarter of an Ounce.

Chamomile Flowers, half an Ounce.

Aniseeds, half an Ounce.

Boil these in a Pint and half of Spring-water, till it be half consumed ; strain it off, and add to it fresh Butter, and Oil of sweet Almonds, of each an Ounce or two ; and half an Ounce, or an Ounce, of Lenitive Electuary.

Give this blood-warm, in order to bring away hard Excrement, after a long-continued Costiveness. It may be repeated occasionally.

Where this Glyster cannot be procured, you may, instead of it, give the like Quantity of Veal-broth, or strong Barley - water, or common Whey, with some common Mallow Leaves boil'd in it ; and a good Quantity of fresh Butter added to it : You may also add a little Manna, or coarse Sugar, if necessary.

A sharp Glyster.

LET it be the same Composition as the emollient Glyster, with the following Addition to it; namely, Tincture of Hiera Picra, and Syrup of Buckthorn Berries, of each one Ounce; and to make it yet sharper, half an Ounce, or an Ounce of Glauber's or Epfom Salt, may be added to it; or, in lack of these, common Salt.

These Additions may be varied to more, or less, according to the Strength of the Patient, and Exigency of the Case.

This Glyster is to be given in Cases
of great Difficulty, to promote the Ex-
pulsion of an Embryo, or Fœtus, in a
Miscarriage; or in order to discharge a
Mole, or false Conception: And also to
promote the Expulsion of a Child, in
case of a ripe, but slow and difficult
Birth, when the Waters are gone off,
and the Child presents in a right Po-
N 4 stance,

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sture, the Head being enter'd the Bason, but not lock'd very tightly in it, or judged small enough to enter it, and pass it without vast Difficulty.

It may be repeated on these Occasions as the Nature of the Case may require.

But you should never give more than one of these sharp Glysters without the Advice of a Physician, or Man Midwife; nor ever give it at all to any Women of weak Constitutions: Neither must this or any other Glyster be given whenever the Child presents in a wrong Posture.

*A strengthening Plaister for a great
Bruise or Strain in the Back.*

TAKE the Soap Plaister, Ad Herniam, De Minio, and Paracelsus, of each half an Ounce. Melt these, with half a Quarter of an Ounce of Venice Turpentine in a Ladle, over a gentle Fire;

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Fire; and when taken off the Fire, stir into it, when it is of a Consistence just fit to spread, half a Quarter of an Ounce of Camphire dissolv'd in a Tea Spoonful of compound Spirit of Lavender; or as much sweet Oil.

Spread this Composition upon Sheepskin Leather, fitted to the Part; and apply it, gently warm'd: And after the Composition is spread, just as you are going to lay it on, you may drop ten or a Dozen Drops of the Chymical Oil of Amber, and smear them over the Surface of the Plaister, with the Feather of a Quill, or the End of your Finger.

If the Bruise or Strain be violent, confine the Woman to her Bed, and recommend her to the Care of a Surgeon, or some able Man Practitioner in Midwifry, that she may be blooded, or have such other Assistance administred as may be judged necessary.

The

The Liniment to anoint your Hands.

TAKE of Oil of sweet Almonds,
four Ounces.

Sperma Ceti, half an Ounce.

Virgins Wax, a Quarter of an Ounce.

Mix, and melt them over a gentle Fire.

This is to be used whenever you make the Touch, to discover the Condition of the Womb, and Situation of the Child; or when you introduce your Hand, in order to perform your Office.

Note.

The plentiful Use of this Liniment, during the Time of a very difficult Labour, extends its salutary Effects even far beyond the Period of the Delivery; inasmuch as it mightily supple the Mouth of the Womb, and its whole Passage; by which means it prevents the great Tension of the Fibres, Inflammations,

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mations, Tumors, and many bad Con-
sequences, too often proceeding from
the forcible Distentions and Bruises of
those Parts, which are altogether un-
avoidable upon the Occurrence of such
extraordinary Difficulties.

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F I N I S.



The Reader is desired to correct the following
E R R A T A.

Preface, Page 12. line 5. read, *and amongst these it may happen.*

Page 15. line 8. blot out, *begin to.*

In the Explanation of the Figures, Page 19. lines 3 and 4, for *its whole Frame, or Structure*, read, *the whole Frame or Structure of the Bones it represents.*

In Section I. Page 30. line 16. for *First*, read *Fist*.

Section II. Page 51. line 4. for *Doze*, read *Dose*.

Page 61. line 20. for *slender*, read *simple*.

Page 100. line 8. for *draw*, read *wrap*.

Page 102. line 10. for *Arms*, read *Arm*.

Page 114. line 20. read, *or external Touch*.

Page 115. line 2. after *Hand*, add, *introduced at the proper Time.*

Section III. Page 143. at the End of the 12th Chapter, add, *if the Arm be so swoln, that you cannot pass your Hand by it, you must require a Man to disengage it, as he shall judge proper.*

Report is desired to cover the following:

E R R A T A

Section 1, page 11, line 2, read, and change this to
"and change this to"
Section 2, page 11, line 2, read, and change this to
"and change this to"
Section 3, page 11, line 2, read, and change this to
"and change this to"
Section 4, page 11, line 2, read, and change this to
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Section 5, page 11, line 2, read, and change this to
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Section 17, page 11, line 2, read, and change this to
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Section 18, page 11, line 2, read, and change this to
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Section 19, page 11, line 2, read, and change this to
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Section 20, page 11, line 2, read, and change this to
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